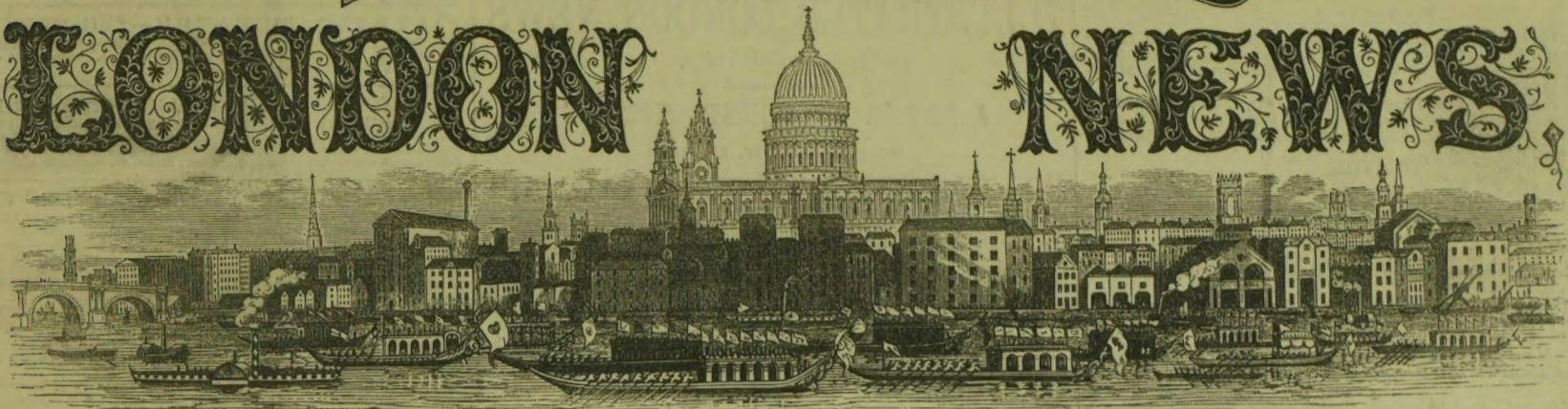


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

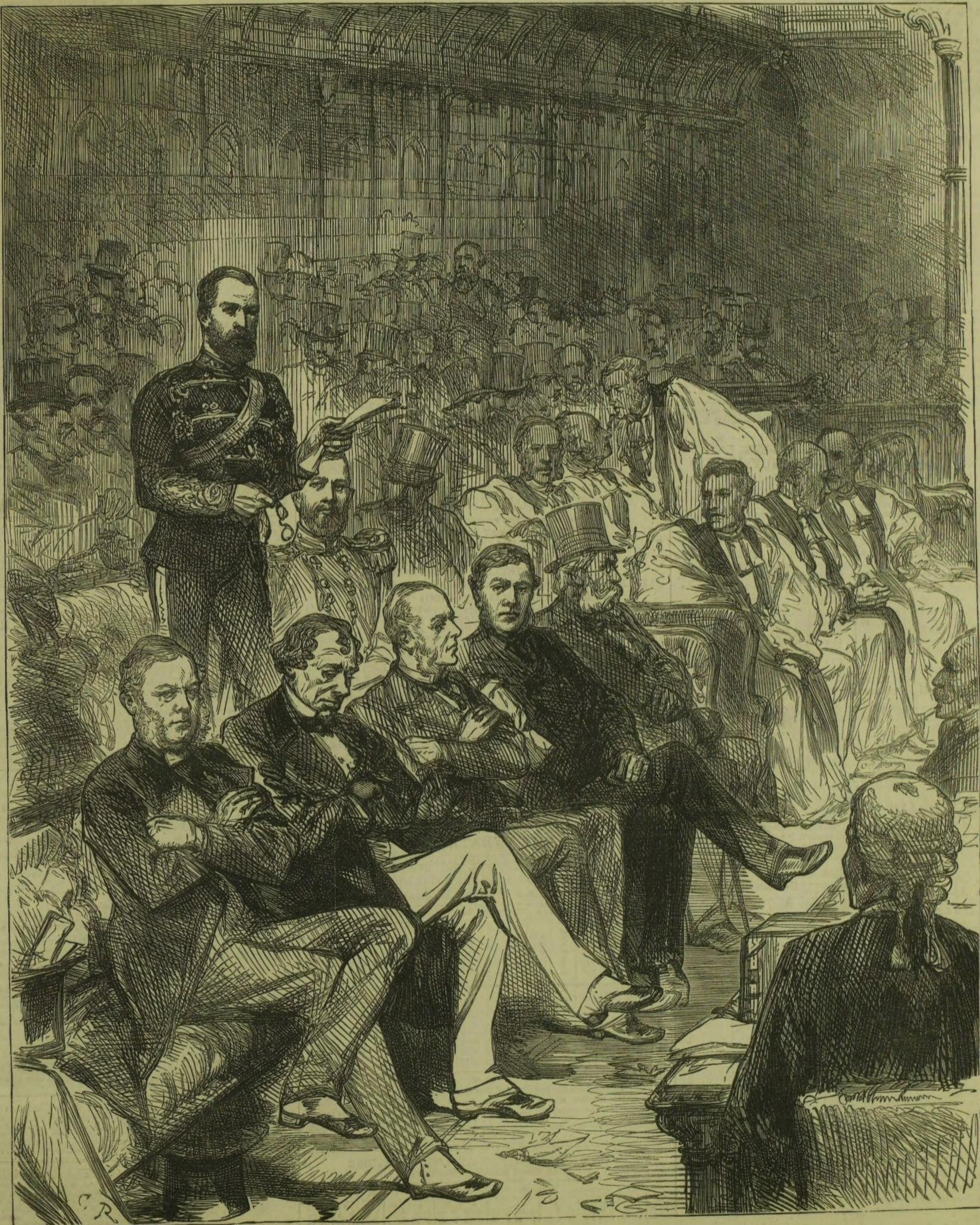


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2061.—VOL. LXXIII.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1878.

WITH { SIXPENCE.
TWO SUPPLEMENTS }
BY POST, 6½D.



THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT: LORD RAVENSWORTH MOVING THE ADDRESS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

BIRTHS.

On the 4th inst., at 27, Grosvenor-street, Lady Aberdour, of a son.
On the 9th inst., at The Shrubbery, Shooter's-hill, the Lady Sarah Sladen, of a son.
On the 10th inst., at St. James's Palace, the Countess of Antrim, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 10th inst., at St. Mathias's Church, Richmond, Surrey, Henry Robert Fergus, Esq., of Jermyn-street, St. James's, to Helen Mary (Queenie), younger daughter of the late Major Hercules Skinner, of the 14th Bengal Cavalry.

On the 10th inst., by special license, at the parish Church of St. Mark, Surbiton, Colonel Gostling Murray, of Whitton Park, Middlesex, to Margaret Frances Elizabeth, only daughter of the Rev. John W. Conant, of Surbiton, Surrey.

DEATHS.

On the 29th ult., the Rev. Henry Thompson, Vicar of Chard, Somerset, in his 81st year. He was the author, with other works chiefly clerical, of a memoir of Hannah More, whose residence, Barley Wood, was in his former curacy of Wrington.

On the 29th ult., at Florence, Mabel Frances, beloved daughter of Randall R. Burroughes, Esq., of The Manor House, Long Stratton, Norfolk, aged 18.

On Oct. 14, at Curepipe, Mauritius, the Hon. Barthélémy Gustave Colin, C.M.G., Member of the Legislative Council, and lately her Majesty's Procureur and Advocate-General for the Island of Mauritius.

On the 7th inst., at 35, Montpelier-square, Brompton, Francis, third son of the late Sir Thomas Whichcote, fifth Baronet, of Aswarby, Lincolnshire, aged 85.

On the 5th inst., at Higginsfield, Cholmondeley, Cheshire, aged 85, Edward Stephens Clark, Esq., Lieutenant, half pay, H.M.'s 4th Regiment, second son of the late Charles Clark, Esq., J.P. and Deputy Lieutenant for Cheshire.

* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 21.

SUNDAY, DEC. 15.

Third Sunday in Advent. Morning Lessons: Isaiah xxv.; 3 John; Evening Lessons: Isaiah xxvi. or xxvii. 5-19; John xx. 19. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m.; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Liddon; 7 p.m., Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, Minor Canon. Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. St. James's, noon, Rev. S. Flood Jones. Whitechapel, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Rev. A. Kirkpatrick. Temple Church, 11 a.m.; 3 p.m., Rev. A. Ainger, the Reader.

MONDAY, DEC. 16.

Cambridge Michaelmas Term ends. Asiatic Society, 4 p.m. (Captain R. F. Burton on Coins, &c., found by him in Midian). Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor Marshall on Anatomy — the Muscles). Society of Arts, Cantor Lecture; 8 p.m. (Mr. W. Mattieu Williams on Mathematical Instruments). Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 17.

Moon's last quarter, 3.3 a.m. Oxford Michaelmas Term ends. Horticultural Society, fruit and floral committee, 11 a.m.; scientific, 1 p.m.; general meeting, 3. Pathological Society, 8.30 p.m. Human Society, committee, 4 p.m. Statistical Society, 7.45 p.m. (Dr. Mouat on the Demographic and International Statistical and Penitentiary Congresses at Stockholm). West of England Cattle and Poultry Show, Plymouth (three days).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18.

Ember Day. Pharmaceutical Society, noon (election of seven annuitants on the Benevolent Fund). Geological Society, 8 p.m. (Dr. A. Leith Adams on the Remains of the Mastodon at Malta; Professor H. G. Seeley on the Dinosauria of the Cambridge Greensand). King's College, 6 p.m. (Mr. G. C. Warr on Ancient History—Greece). Birkbeck Institution, 8.30 p.m. (Rev. Professor Henslow on the Origin and Distribution of the British Flora).

THURSDAY, DEC. 19.

University of Edinburgh, Inaugural Address of the Marquis of Hartington as Lord Rector. London Institution, 7 p.m. (Mr. Frederic Harrison on the Abuse of Books). Numismatic Society, 7 p.m. College of Preceptors, 7 p.m. (Mr. J. G. Fitch on Practical Teaching—Natural Science). Royal Albert Hall, 8 p.m. (Mr. W. Carter's Choir, Selections from "Judas Maccabaeus," &c.). Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m. Royal Academy of Music, orchestral concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20.

Ember Day. City of London College, 6 p.m. (Dr. Heinemann on Political Economy—the Theory of Value). Architectural Association, 7.30 p.m. (Mr. A. Payne on Architect or Architect and Surveyor).

SATURDAY, DEC. 21.

Shortest day. St. Thomas, Apostle and Martyr. Ember Day. Michaelmas Law Sittings end.

POSTAGE OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

AT HOME.

The cost of transmission by post within the United Kingdom, including the Channel Islands, is one halfpenny.

ABROAD.

Africa, West Coast of ... 2d. Gibraltar ... 2d. Alexandria ... 2d. Australia, via Brindisi ... 2d. via Southampton ... 2d. Austria ... 2d. Belgium ... 2d. Brazil ... 2d. Canada ... 2d. Cape of Good Hope ... 2d. China, via Brindisi ... 2d. via Southampton ... 2d. Constantinople ... 2d. Denmark ... 2d. France ... 2d. Germany ... 2d. West Indies ... 2d.

Copies printed on thin paper may be sent to the Colonies and Foreign Countries at half the rates stated above; but their use is not recommended, the appearance of the Engravings being greatly injured by the print at the back showing through.

Newspapers for foreign parts must be posted within eight days of the time of publication.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Is now Publishing.

A LARGE COLOURED PICTURE

IS GIVEN WITH IT, ENTITLED

"PUSS IN BOOTS,"

(PRINTED BY LEIGHTON BROTHERS).

From a Picture Painted Specially for this Christmas Number

By JOHN E. MILLAIS, R.A.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

The Vicar's Daughter. By G. D. Leslie, R.A.
The Finishing Touch. By H. S. Marks, A.R.A.
Follow the Drum. By G. A. Storey, A.R.A.
The Fairies' Favourite. By J. A. Fitzgerald.
My Lady's Carriage Stops the Way. By A. Hunt.
On Christmas Day in the Morning. By Miss M. E. Edwards.
Our Noble Ancestor. By F. Dadd.
An Evil Omen. By S. Read.
Dancing was Dancing in those Days. By F. Barnard.
Lucky Dog! By Percy Macquoid.
Young Faces and Old Fashions. By M. W. Ridley.
Mr. Quiverfull's Christmas Box. By A. Hunt.
Thankfully Received. By C. Gregory.
The Mistletoe Bough. By A. E. Emslie.
Where the Deed was Done. By Mason Jackson.
A Page of Pictorial Charades.

This Christmas Number contains

A TALE BY MRS. J. H. RIDDELL,
Author of "George Geith," &c.,
ENTITLED

"MICHAEL GARGRAVE'S HARVEST,"

AND

SKETCHES and VERSES by F. C. BURNAND and others.

The whole is inclosed in a Coloured Wrapper, and published apart from the ordinary issue.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

Through the post in the United Kingdom, 3d. extra.

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NOW PUBLISHING,

PRICE ONE SHILLING (INLAND POSTAGE, 2½d.),

THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK

FOR

1879.

CONTAINING

TWELVE COLOURED PICTURES,

PRINTED BY LEIGHTON BROTHERS' CHROMATIC PROCESS,

FROM ORIGINALS BY EMINENT ARTISTS;

TWELVE SKETCHES ILLUSTRATING THE SEASONS,

AS HEADINGS TO THE CALENDAR;

TWELVE FINE-ART ENGRAVINGS;

ASTRONOMICAL DIAGRAMS OF REMARKABLE PHENOMENA,

WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES;

The Royal Family of Great Britain; the Queen's Household; her Majesty's Ministers; Lists of Public Offices and Officers; Bankers, Law and University Terms; Fixed and Movable Festivals; Anniversaries; Acts of Parliament passed during the Session of 1878; Revenue and Expenditure; Obituary of Eminent Persons; Christian, Jewish, and Mahomedan Calendars; Tables of Stamps, Taxes, and Government Duties; Times of High Water; Post-Office Regulations; together with a large amount of useful and valuable information, which has during the past thirty-three years made the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK the most acceptable and elegant companion to the library; whilst it is universally acknowledged to be by far the cheapest Almanack ever published.

The unprecedented demand for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK year after year stimulates the Proprietor to still greater exertions to secure for this Almanack a reception as favourable as that which has hitherto placed its circulation second only to that of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

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The SHILLING ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK is published at the Office of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, 198, Strand, and sold by all Booksellers and News-vendors.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 10' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF			THERMOM.	WIND.	General	Direction.	Movement in 24 hours read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours read at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.						
4	30°194	38°6	32°0	'79	8	41°4	34°9	N. N.W.	237 0'000
5	30°017	38°5	34°6	'87	10	44°4	33°8	N.W. W. W.S.W.	203 0'000
6	29°961	33°5	25°7	'76	5	37°1	29°8	N.W. W. S.W.	176 0'100*
7	29°602	35°5	32°7	'91	10	36°8	34°1	N.W. N. N.W.	166 0'005
8	29°472	32°8	25°4	'85	10	34°8	31°4	N.W. N.	223 0'000
9	29°633	30°3	26°2	'86	2	35°0	26°6	N.W. W.	104 0'000
10	29°825	26°8	26°8	1'00	10	23°4	25°0	N. N.E. N.E.	87 0'000

* Snow.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:—

Barometer (inches) corrected ... 30°229 30°069 30°062 29°643 29°463 29°619 29°818

Temperature of Air ... 37°1° 36°7° 32°1° 36°2° 32°8° 30°2° 27°6°

Temperature of Evaporation ... 35°4° 35°7° 29°2° 35°2° 31°8° 28°7° 27°4°

Direction of Wind ... N.N.W. W. N.W. N. N.W. N.

Wind Force ... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Wind Velocity ... 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000 0'000

Times of High Water at London Bridge for the week ending December 21.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
5 15	40 5	5 29	6 55	7 20	8 22	9 30

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
m	m	m	m	m	m	m
15	10	8	5	3	1	11

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. F. Chatterton. On BOXING NIGHT will be produced the Grand Comic Christmas Annual, written by E. L. Blanchard, entitled CINDERELLA; or, Harlequin and the Fairy Slipper, in which the celebrated Voices will appear. New and Magnificent Scenery by William Beverley. Double Harlequinade. Box-Office open daily Ten to Five. Prices as usual. Stage Manager, Mr. Edward Stirling; Treasurer, Mr. James Guiver.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—THE TWO ORPHANS. EVERY EVENING at 7.30. MORNING PERFORMANCE OF A REPUBLICAN MARRIAGE, SATURDAY NEXT, at Two o'clock. Box-office open daily from Eleven to Five. No booking fees.

HAMILTON'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE, Holborn. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS and GRAND PANSTEREORAMA of PASSING EVENTS, including superb Scenes of Cyprus. The O.J.C.M. Minstrels, the Champion Skaters, and other attractions. EVERY EVENING at 8. Mondays and Saturdays, 3 and 8. Admission, 6d. to 2s.; Stalls, 3s. Bonnets allowed.

THE CANTERBURY THEATRE OF VARIETIES. At Nine o'clock, TRAFALGAR: The VICTORY at SEA—Moorish Dagger Ballet at Gibraltar—The West Indies—Jack Ashore at Portsmouth—Songs and Hornpipes—Nelson's Departure from England—Castanea Ballet at Cadiz—On BOARD the VICTORY—Minuet Drill—Cutlass Drill—Shortening Sail—Beating to Quarters—The Battle—The Death of Nelson. VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT at Eight o'clock and during the Evening—Miss Nelly Power, Mr. Arthur Lloyd, Mr. Fred Wilson, the Klincks, &c.

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE, RADLEY. AN ELECTION TO FOUR ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS will be held on **FRIDAY, JAN. 21, 1879**, and the Examination will commence on the previous **WEDNESDAY** at 4.30 p.m. The Scholarships will be of the value of £50, £50, £30, and £20 each. They are open to boys who will be under the age of fourteen on Jan. 1, 1879, and are tenable for four years. Under special circumstances a supplementary Scholarship may be awarded after the four years' tenure. During the days of Examination candidates will be received in the College. Apply to the Bursar, Radley College, Abingdon.

CHRISTMAS LECTURES.—ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, ALBEMARLE-STREET, PICCADILLY. W.—Professor DEWAR, M.A., F.R.S., will deliver a Course of Six Lectures (adapted to a Juvenile Audience) on "A SOAP BUBBLE" commencing on **SATURDAY, DEC. 28, at Three o'Clock**; to be continued on Dec. 31, 1878; and Jan. 2, 4, 7, 9, 1879. Subscription to this Course, One Guinea (Children under sixteen, Half a Guinea); to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may now be obtained at the Institution.

THE AFGHAN WAR.

We have received a letter from Mr. William Simpson, our Special Artist, who started for India on Oct. 15, informing us that he had joined the British Troops engaged in the Afghan War, and that he hoped to send some Sketches by the next Indian Mail; so that Illustrations of the Chief Incidents and Scenes of the War will speedily appear in the Illustrated London News.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements for insertion in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Dec. 28 (Christmas week) should be sent not later than Monday, Dec. 23.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1878.

The Parliamentary Debates on the policy and proceedings of her Majesty's Government which have launched the country into a war with the Ameer of Afghanistan overshadow this week all other topics of political interest. Both in the House of Lords and in the House of Commons they have been sufficiently full and searching to supply to the British people whatever materials may be requisite for a discriminating and accurate judgment of the matter in hand. Whether the policy which has matured into a hostile aggression upon the Ameer's territory be, or be not, a departure from that consistently acted upon by the Indian Governments of Lords Canning, Lawrence, Mayo, and Northbrook—whether, if it be, it was justified by a change of circumstances altogether unprecedented—whether the manner in which that change was met, under instructions from home, by Lord Lytton in the wisest and most statesman-like manner—whether the present war in Afghanistan was necessary, and whether it can be vindicated on principles of international justice, are questions upon which much light has been thrown by the discussions in both Houses, and as to which, after due study of them, tolerably well-formed opinions may be adopted by reasonable men. It must be conceded, however, that the needed investigation will still to a large extent tax both the industry and the intellect of the reading public. Party influences on both sides have tended to colour both the rhetoric and the logic, which ought to have been pure and simple as the light of day. There has been much passion, but not more than the collision of thought on the subject was likely to evolve. In some cases, dry technicalities have been substituted for living spirit. In some, motives have been assumed and dwelt upon in place of facts. Some have argued the question upon lower, some upon higher, grounds; but, on the whole, the debates have fairly sustained the reputation of the British Legislature for political ability, earnestness, patriotism, and good faith, and are unquestionably capable of being read with some certainty of drawing from them a definite conclusion.

It is no business of ours to indicate what that conclusion should be. The numerical vote shows rather the strength or weakness of Parliamentary parties than the true merits of the case. We are bound to take into account, in order to determine its intrinsic value, the circumstances under which each vote has been given. The remark is applicable to both sides. It is a trying thing to show the strength of one's convictions by the severance of party ties. That is a display of individuality not ordinarily expected, and, perhaps, seldom excused. It is therefore to be looked upon as one of the drawbacks inevitable in the system of government by party. Members vote gregariously, and, primarily at least, aggregate voting must be taken as representative of the mind of the country. In critical times, however, we look rather to the articulate expression of opinion and feeling by speech and argument, than to the more mechanical exhibitions of them by vote. The country practically acquiesces, for the time being, in the latter, and it is right that it should do so. But it draws from the former its most trustworthy inferences, and it is from this teaching that it is ordinarily guided in pronouncing its ultimate decision. We may be assured that the debates of the week will go far to enlighten the judgment of the constituencies in the now not distant general election. They will become the source of accurate information to such as are eager for it, and by means of these they will be rendered broadly familiar to those whose occupations preclude deep and accurate political study. Accident may, possibly, intervene to diminish or even to destroy such a result; but it will, nevertheless, be true that the Parliamentary discussions of the week (quite irrespectively

of the votes that have been given) will do not a little to shape the national decision when it may be called for.

How far the tenor of the week's Parliamentary discussions may modify the original intentions and plans of her Majesty's Government in regard to Afghanistan it is difficult to foresee. It seems probable, however, that they will do so to some extent. The rapid progress of our military forces beyond the North-Western Frontier of India will, peradventure, reach a stage of present success which the Cabinet may hold themselves justified in accepting as final. The severity of the climate in the hill country and neighbourhood of Cabul will presently, almost of necessity, suspend field operations for three months to come. During that period the Ameer may deem it the better part of wisdom to succumb to the irresistible pressure brought to bear upon him. That the displeasure visited upon him will be immoderate, there are many reasons, we hope, for not anticipating. The determination of the Government to rely, in the first instance at any rate, upon the Indian Revenue for the means required by the war, indicates, we think, their expectation that it will not be of long continuance. Doubtless, in the end, Imperial resources will be applied in some proportion, greater or less, towards repayment of the expenditure incurred. But this is an after consideration. Possibly it may be bequeathed for settlement to the successors of the present Administration, in which case it will prove to be an unmerited legacy of embarrassment. But we should conjecture from the tone of the debates that a long campaign—much less a succession of campaigns—is not contemplated by the Indian authorities. True, the beginning of strife is the letting out of waters. No one can predict the amount of evil to which it will extend, nor the seeds of mischief which it will scatter upon the surface of Asia. But, looking to the origin of the war, to its progress, to its possible entanglements, and to the effect which it may have upon the reputation of British statesmanship, one cannot but desire that it may be as brief and cursory as possible, and towards this consummation the ample discussion which these matters have now received in both Houses of Parliament will, it is reasonable to hope, have materially tended. We cannot go back, indeed, to where we stood before the proclamation of the war—we cannot altogether resume a policy of masterly inactivity—but we can pause within comparatively measurable limits; and, if error has been committed, it may, perhaps, be corrected before all its evil results will have been developed. This is the chief benefit we look for from the Debates. Others may incidentally accrue; but every well-wisher of the country will earnestly desire that, in as far as we may have been blindly led into war, the ill effects of it may be curtailed at the earliest possible moment, and that whatever of injustice it involves may be speedily and amply repaired.

THE COURT.

The Queen, after presenting new colours to the second battalion of the 4th (King's Royal) Regiment at Windsor Castle yesterday week, entertained at dinner Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, Lady Southampton, the Marchioness Dowager of Ely, Viscount Torrington, Sir John and Lady Cowell, Lieutenant-General F. C. A. Stephenson, C.B., commanding the Home district; Colonel J. H. Hall, first battalion Coldstream Guards; Colonel E. W. Bray, C.B., commanding, Colonel A. J. Sykes, and Major J. M'D. Elliott, 4th King's Own Royal.

Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice drove to Bagshot on Saturday last. The Princess and Prince Leopold were present in the afternoon at the service at Eton Chapel, where Mozart's "Requiem" was given. Their Royal Highnesses afterwards visited the Provost of Eton and Mrs. Goodford. The Countess of Stair and the Right Hon. R. A. Cross dined with the Queen.

Her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service on Sunday in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, officiated. Princess Christian visited her Majesty and remained to luncheon.

Earl Beauchamp, Lord Steward, had an audience of the Queen on Monday to present an address to her Majesty from the House of Lords. Prince Leopold came to London, and was present at the debate in the House of Lords. His Royal Highness afterwards returned to Windsor. The Queen's dinner party included the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley, Major C. E. Phipps, and Captain T. J. Edwards, R.E.

Princess Christian and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby dined with her Majesty on Tuesday.

The Queen and the members of the Royal family have been suffering great distress in consequence of the Grand Duchess of Hesse having been attacked with diphtheria. The bulletin on Wednesday night gave the gratifying intelligence that the fever was diminishing and the Grand Duchess progressing favourably.

The Queen in Council on the 27th ult. declared her consent to the marriage of the Duke of Cumberland and Princess Thyra of Denmark.

The Duchess Dowager of Athole has succeeded Lady Southampton as Lady in Waiting; and the Hon. Caroline Cavendish and the Hon. Evelyn Paget have succeeded the Hon. Mary Pitt and the Hon. Amy Lambart as Maids of Honour in Waiting.

Her Majesty has presented one hundred pounds of linen to the Charing-Cross Hospital.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales inspected the Smithfield Club Cattle Show at the Agricultural Hall on Monday. His Royal Highness visited the Duchess of Edinburgh at Clarence House and remained to luncheon. In the evening the Prince attended the debate in the House of Lords. The Princess of Wales arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham. The Duchess of Edinburgh visited their Royal Highnesses on Tuesday and lunched with them. The Prince attended the debate in the House of Lords. His Royal Highness presided at a meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society

at the offices in Hanover-square on Wednesday. The Prince and Princess visited the Duchess of Cambridge.

The Duchess of Edinburgh, accompanied by her children, arrived in town on Sunday from Germany. His Excellency Count Schouvaloff proceeded by special train to Dover to meet her Royal and Imperial Highness on her landing, and accompanied her to Charing-cross, where the Duchess was met by the Prince of Wales, Prince Leopold, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck. The Duchess, with her children, drove to Clarence House.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The ratepayers of Whitechapel have defeated by 496 to 261 a proposal to adopt the Public Libraries Act.

The Lord Mayor presided on Wednesday at the annual meeting of the Hospital Sunday Fund held at the Mansion House. June 15 was fixed for the day of collection next year.

After hearing evidence on Tuesday, the grand jury, at the Central Criminal Court, made the following presentment:—"No true bill against Annie Louisa Gooch and Anne Walker for misdemeanour."

Mr. Gladstone has written to the Southwark Two Hundred, in reply to their proposal that he should be a candidate for that borough, regretting that there are insurmountable barriers in the way of his accepting the invitation. He repeats his determination to make no arrangement at present for the next Parliament.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers at the end of the first week in December was 82,176, of whom 42,351 were in workhouses and 39,825 received outdoor relief. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 796, of whom 571 were men, 163 women, and 35 children under sixteen.

Sir R. Phillimore, assisted by the Trinity Masters, gave judgment on Wednesday in the Admiralty Court in the action brought by the London Steam-Boat Company, the owners of the Princess Alice, for £20,000, for damages sustained in the collision with the Bywell Castle. There was also a cross action for £2000 brought by the owners of the Bywell Castle. The Court was of opinion that the Princess Alice was negligently navigated, and was therefore to blame for the collision. The Bywell Castle also made a wrong manoeuvre after seeing the green light of the Princess Alice. Both vessels were consequently to blame for the collision. Notice of appeal was given.

The annual central conference of Representatives of Poor-Law Guardians was held on Wednesday in the rooms of the Social Science Association, Adelphi, and was numerously attended by representatives of guardians from all parts of the country. Lord Hampton occupied the chair at the morning sitting and Mr. Edwin Chadwick in the afternoon. Mr. T. Hare, Assistant Charity Commissioner, gave an address on the use of charitable endowments for the diminution of poverty; and Mr. Llewellyn, High Sheriff of Glamorganshire, read a paper on Poor-Law Administration in Times of General Depression of Trade or during Strikes or Lock-Outs. Both subjects were discussed, and a resolution having a bearing upon them was passed.

There were 2576 births and 2016 deaths registered in London last week. The deaths included 389, which resulted from the sinking of the Princess Alice in the Thames on Sept. 3 last. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 162, while the deaths, exclusive of the 389 deaths referred to, were 138 below the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 4 from smallpox, 28 from measles, 9 from diphtheria, 42 from whooping-cough, and 9 from diarrhoea. The fatal cases of scarlet fever, which had been 54 and 70 in the two preceding weeks, were 62 last week, and were 22 below the corrected weekly average. The fatal cases of fever, which had been 24 and 52 in the two previous weeks, declined again last week to 29, and were 13 below the average: 2 were certified as typhus, and 22 as enteric or typhoid. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 428 and 441 in the two previous weeks, further rose to 460 last week, but were somewhat below the average: 299 resulted from bronchitis and 101 from pneumonia. In Greater London 3181 births and 2351 deaths were registered. The mean temperature was 36.3 deg., being 5.4 deg. below the average in the corresponding week of sixty years. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was 3.4 hours, the sun being above the horizon during 56.1 hours.

GENERAL SIR SAMUEL BROWNE.

Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel J. Browne, V.C., C.B., K.C.S.I., is in command of the British and Indian forces which have proceeded through the Khyber Pass to Dakka and Jellalabad. We give a portrait of this very distinguished officer. He first held a commission in the 46th Bengal Native Infantry, and served with it throughout the Punjab campaign, being present at the passage of the Chenab, the affairs of Ramnugur and Sadoolapore, and the battles of Chilianwallah and Goojerat. On the organisation of the Punjab Irregular force he was offered an appointment in the 2nd Punjab Cavalry. With this regiment, in December, 1852, Captain Browne served in the operations against the Oomurza Wuzerees on the Bunnoo frontier, when he was mentioned in the despatch of Major John Nicholson; in the Border Expedition, under Sir Neville Chamberlain, Captain Browne was again mentioned. At the outbreak of the Mutiny, a squadron of his regiment, under Lieutenant Dighton Probyn, was detached to Hindostan, and in the siege of Delhi and subsequent affairs between that city and Lucknow earned for its commander a Brevet Majority and Victoria Cross. But the services of Captain Browne were too valuable to be wasted in guarding the frontier, and early in 1858 he received orders to march down to join Sir Colin Campbell's army. At the siege and capture of Lucknow, the affairs at Koorsee, Roowiah, Allygunge, and battle of Bareilly, he commanded his regiment, and then, being detached in charge of a small field force, consisting of the present 24th Punjab Infantry and a couple of companies of Rifles, planned and executed a brilliant attack on the rebels strongly posted at Sirpoorah on Aug. 31, 1858. The enemy were defeated with great slaughter, their camp and guns falling into our hands. For this action Major Browne was rewarded with the Victoria Cross, the Companionship of the Bath, and a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonelcy. Until 1864 Colonel Browne retained command of his original regiment, when he was promoted to the Corps of Guides; and in 1869, on the Peshawar Brigade falling vacant, he succeeded General Donald Stewart in that post, relinquishing it on promotion to Major-General two years afterwards. In 1875 General Browne was selected to accompany his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India, and for his services in connection with the Royal visit obtained the knighthood of the Star of India. Sir Samuel Browne has lost his left arm in the field of battle.



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR S. BROWNE, COMMANDING THE FORCES IN THE KHYBER PASS.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The scene in the House of Lords on Thursday week at five o'clock in the afternoon, when their Lordships reassembled to consider their Address in reply to the Queen's Speech, which had been read to both Houses at an earlier hour of the day, is the subject of an Illustration. The Address was moved by the Earl of Ravensworth and seconded by Lord Inchiquin. There was a very full attendance of Peers, amongst whom their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge sat on the first of the cross benches, where the Earl of Derby also took his seat. The Lord Chancellor, Earl Cairns, was seated on the woolsack, having the Bishops on the upper side benches at his right hand, and the Peers who are Cabinet Ministers—namely, the Earl of Beaconsfield, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Marquis of Salisbury, Viscount Cranbrook, and others. On the opposite benches were Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, and others belonging to the Liberal party. The steps of the Throne, and the lobbies and boxes on each side further back, were crowded with members of the House of Commons and of the different foreign Embassies. In the side galleries above, to the left of the Throne, were their Royal Highnesses Prince Leopold, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck; also many peeresses and other ladies of rank.

PRINCESS LOUISE AND LORD LORNE
IN CANADA.

Our Special Artist, Mr. Melton Prior, who was sent to Canada on purpose to furnish sketches of the reception of the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise, contributes three Sketches to this Number of our Journal. They represent the scene at the landing of his Excellency and her Royal Highness in the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Monday, the 23rd ult., with the incident of a young lady presenting a bouquet to the Princess on that occasion; and the ceremony of the new Governor-General of Canada taking the oaths of his office, in the Province Building. The landing took place at two o'clock in the afternoon. The steam-ship Sarmatian, which had conveyed the Marquis and the Princess-Marchioness across the Atlantic, arrived in harbour on the Sunday night, after a stormy ocean passage. In the forenoon of the next day, the Sarmatian left her moorings, hoisted the Royal standard, and steamed up the harbour to the landing-place, Royal salutes being meanwhile fired from the forts, ships, and citadel, the men-of-war also manning their yards, and each giving three lusty cheers as the vessel passed. A band on board H.M.S. Black Prince played the National Anthem and "The Campbells are Coming;" and so did a band in the Bellerophon. The harbour presented a

bright and joyous appearance. Our Illustration shows the manner in which the landing was effected, the Vice-Admirals first disembarking; next, the Viceregal party, then others. The Princess, notwithstanding the rough voyage, looked well, as did also the Marquis of Lorne. The scene in the dockyard was very imposing, and the festive display made by the city exceeded all expectation. The procession of the Viceregal party through the city was a perfect triumph with enthusiastic cheering along the whole line, gracefully acknowledged by his Excellency. Arches were raised and bunting waved along the course. The Marquis wassorn in as Governor-General at the Province Building by Judge Ritchie, of the Supreme Court of Canada—General Sir Patrick MacDougall presiding as Administrator. The Princess was on her husband's right, the Duke of Edinburgh on his left. After reading the Royal Commission and administering the oaths of office, the Administrator vacated the chair for the Governor-General, to whom all paid their respects. An address of the city of Halifax was presented by the Mayor, to which his Excellency replied. The Imperial troops and the Canadian Militia lined the streets. At the Admiralty House, where the Viceregal party stayed, the scene was magnificent. They dined with the Lieutenant-Governor, and her Royal Highness next day held a drawing-room at the Government House. The Marquis and his Royal consort, as we have stated, after three days' rest at Halifax,



PRESENTING A BOUQUET TO PRINCESS LOUISE ON LANDING AT HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

went on by the Intercolonial Railway to Montreal, where they stayed from the Friday to the Monday, and thence proceeded to Ottawa, the political capital of the Canadian Dominion. We shall publish a few more of our Special Artist's Sketches; and we have to acknowledge the courtesy of the directors of the Allan line of mail-steamer, and of the commander of their fine vessel the Peruvian, in granting Mr. Prior the best accommodation on board for his voyage to Canada.

THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN.

Our well-known Special Artist Mr. William Simpson, who was sent out from England for the purpose of furnishing our Illustrations of the war in Afghanistan, arrived at Peshawur two or three days before the actual commencement of hostilities. He has been permitted to join the army division commanded by Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Browne, in the Khyber Pass, for the advance upon Jellalabad; and we expect next week to present some of his sketches of the capture of Fort Ali Musjid, which should reach us in time for the Engravings to be prepared. The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, General Sir Frederick Paul Haines, travelled on the 11th ult. from Umballa to Lahore, with General Lumsden, the Adjutant-General, Colonel C. C. Johnson, Quartermaster-General, and other members of his Staff, in three special carriages attached to the same train in which our Special Artist was a passenger; and so we have received from Mr. Simpson a sketch of the scene at starting from the Umballa station, which appears in the Supplement to this Number. He remarks upon this incident, in a note accompanying the Sketch:—"The departure from Umballa was at half-past two in the afternoon. The Commander-in-Chief, with General Lumsden and Colonel Johnson, came down there from Simla the evening before. A military commander starting for the front when a war is impending is always an important event; and in this case, although there was an entire absence of display or ceremony, the moment ought to be recorded. The Commander-in-Chief and his Staff would have looked better in a picture if they had had cocked hats and feathers waving, but in this instance they were in the plainest of mufti, not a single vestige of uniform being visible. Sir F. P. Haines wore an ordinary grey wideawake and a white puggaree. He stood chatting at the door of the carriage for a few minutes with some friends, while around on the platform were groups of natives who were scrambling among the heterogeneous mass of articles which formed their travelling *impedimenta*, and who seemed to be totally unconscious of the rank of those so near to them. There was only the raising of a few hats as Sir Frederick entered his carriage and the train moved slowly away to Lahore. Such was the start of the Chief of the greatest military force now in the eastern part of the world. At Philoor, on the north bank of the Sutlej, there was dinner, after which everyone turned in to sleep. The train reached Lahore at 3.15 next morning. The Commander-in-Chief's three carriages were detached and shunted at the station, where those within all remained sleeping till the morning, and then turned out to the quarters which had been prepared for them."

We present also, in this Number of our Journal, the portraits of Lieutenant-General Sir Samuel Browne and of Major-General Frederick Roberts, commanding respectively in the Khyber Pass and in the Khoorun Valley. That of Sir S. Browne is from a photograph by Messrs. Maull and Co. A sketch of the camp of the 19th Regiment at Mooltan, the rendezvous of the Quetta Field Force, is given among our Illustrations for this week.

At the time of our latest writing, on Thursday afternoon, for this week's publication, there is an entire cessation of news of the campaign, from the three separate columns advancing by different lines into Afghanistan. Sir Samuel Browne has not yet moved onward to Jellalabad, and is probably awaiting his supplies from Peshawur, as the enemy, who are believed to have abandoned Jellalabad, will scarcely have left their stores of provisions and ammunition there to fall into his hands. As for General Roberts, who is much farther removed from his base of operations at Kohat, he has, since his victory of Monday week at the Peiwar Pass, occupied Ali Khel and Haza Darakht, and pushed a cavalry reconnaissance as far as Rokian, without again meeting the enemy; but he is probably not furnished with the means of transport for his guns and baggage up the tremendous mountain path to the summit of the Shaturgardan Pass, and he seems to intend making winter quarters for his troops in the Khoorun Valley. The southern field of operations, from Quetta to Candahar, under the command of Sir Donald Stewart, appears to be free from active opposition, so far as it has yet been explored. Major Sandeman has made a reconnaissance up the Khojuk Pass, which was found quite clear, and General Biddulph is expected to lead the advanced corps along that road, while Sir Donald Stewart has assumed the chief command at Quetta.

A letter from Shere Ali to Lord Lytton, dated Nov. 19, in reply to the Viceroy's ultimatum, was received at Lahore on the 8th inst., eighteen days after the commencement of hostilities; it expresses distrust of the English professions of goodwill, complains of the interference of a former Viceroy on behalf of the Ameer's undutiful son, Yakoob Khan, but offers to receive "a purely friendly and temporary mission, with a small escort, not exceeding twenty or thirty members, similar to the late Russian mission to Cabul." It is stated that the Ameer has sent his family and household, over the Bamian Pass, to Balkh, and thence to Russian Turkestan.

The native tribes in the Khyber have given no further trouble, and the British troops are healthy; but the Indian sepoys feel the increasing wintry cold in that mountain country.

The Sheffield Town Council were on Wednesday informed that the Local Government Board would sanction the proposal of the Council to borrow £300,000 for street improvements.

The election at Maldon on Wednesday resulted in the return of the Liberal candidate, Mr. George Courtauld, by a majority of 671 votes as opposed to 530 given to his opponent, Sir William Neville Abdy, a Conservative.—The nomination for Bristol took place on Wednesday, Mr. Lewis Fry being proposed in the Liberal interest, and Sir Ivor Bertie Guest in the Conservative interest.—The nomination for New Ross takes place to-day, and the polling on the 17th inst.

The distress at Sheffield continues to increase. Mr. Mundella, M.P., has sent £50 and a supply of blankets, and Mrs. Mundella has sent £50 worth of warm clothing. The distress, more particularly in the ironworking districts of the town, is exceedingly great, and there are distributions of soup and bread almost daily. Children's dinners are also given in various parishes, and a committee of ladies, over which the Mayoress presides, are making an organised effort to supply sempstress and the wives of unemployed men with sewing, on the understanding that when the clothing is completed it shall be lent to the poor.—There is great distress also in Manchester and Salford, and committees have been formed with the object of giving relief.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

In the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday last the election of the Duc Decazes, who was Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Government of the Duc de Broglie, was invalidated by 373 votes to 50. The Chamber has also annulled the return of M. Malartre and of Baron Reille.

The appointment of Admiral Jaures as Ambassador to the Court of Madrid was officially announced on Thursday.

The death of M. Raulland, the Governor of the Bank of France, was announced on Thursday.

SPAIN.

Señor Rivero, formerly President of the Cortes and leader of the Progressist party during the reign of Queen Isabella, is dead. To his funeral on Sunday the Cortes, on the motion of Señor Castellar, sent its President, Señor Ayala, and eighteen Deputies. The procession of mourners was headed by Marshal Serrano, Señor Castellar, and Señor Ayala.

A Standard telegram states that there was a long discussion in the Spanish Cortes on Wednesday on the condition of the Basque Provinces. Señor Canovas said that the state of siege would be maintained as long as the fuerista agitation continued.

ITALY.

The debate in the Chamber on the policy of the Ministry was resumed on Thursday week. During the debate Signor Cairoli entered the House, supporting his steps with a stick and leaning on the arm of Dr. Bertani. The House was crowded in every part, and all present immediately rose to their feet with a burst of acclamation from every side such as has not resounded through the hall since Garibaldi took his seat in 1875. The Right, the Left, and the Centre all joined in the applause. Last Monday Signor Cairoli laid on the table the Treaty of Berlin, and presented a bill for the reorganisation of the Central Administration. The Minister of Finance also brought in a bill sanctioning the monetary convention recently concluded at Paris. The debate on the interpellations directed against the Government was then resumed, Baron Nicotera being one of the speakers against the Ministry. The proposed vote of confidence in the Italian Ministry has, as was expected, been defeated in the Chamber. The long debate ended on Wednesday, and, in a House numbering 457 deputies, 189 voted for the motion and 263 against it, making a majority of 74 against the Government. Five deputies abstained from voting. The Cabinet has tendered its resignation, which has been accepted by the King. His Majesty has summoned the Presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies.

BELGIUM.

After a fortnight's animated debate the Chamber of Representatives has voted, by 67 to 54 votes, the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.

SWITZERLAND.

The following have been elected members of the Federal Council:—Dr. Welti, M. Schenck, Colonel Scherer, Colonel Hammer, M. Anderwert, M. Bavier, and M. Droz. M. Bavier is the only new member. Colonel Hammer has been elected President and Dr. Welti Vice-President of the Council and of the Swiss Confederation for the ensuing year. M. Morel has been elected President of the Federal Tribunal.

It is reported from Geneva that there have been heavy snowstorms and keen frosts throughout the south of Switzerland and Savoy. The Alpine routes are snowed up.

GERMANY.

As recorded in our last issue, the German Emperor and Empress made a solemn entry into Berlin on Thursday, the 5th inst., and were received with great enthusiasm. The streets were handsomely decorated, and at night the illuminations were general. In the evening the *Gazette* promulgated three Imperial decrees, announcing the Emperor's resumption of his functions, and thanking the Crown Prince for his efficient assistance during his illness. The Emperor William paid a visit to the Opera-House at Berlin on Friday night, and was greeted with loud cheers by the audience. All present rose and joined in singing the National Anthem, and on its conclusion the cheering was renewed. The Emperor subsequently visited the Royal Theatre, where he had a similar reception. On Saturday his Majesty received several congratulatory addresses. In reply to one from the Berlin magistrates and town council, he spoke of education, especially religious education, as the best means of counteracting the sentiments which had led to the recent attacks in several countries upon the head of the State. Lord Odo Russell was received in a special audience by the Emperor, when he presented the Queen's congratulations at his Majesty's happy recovery and entry into the capital. Thanksgiving services were held on Sunday in all the Berlin churches to celebrate the return of the Emperor. A Te Deum was sung in the Roman Catholic church of St. Hedwig. The Emperor and Empress and the Royal family attended at the cathedral. The Diplomatic Corps was received by the Emperor to present its congratulations.

The Emperor William has appointed the Duke of Connaught honorary Colonel of the Brandenburg-Zieten regiment of Hussars, the commander of which is Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia. The Duke paid a visit to the Emperor and Crown Prince on Tuesday.

Prince Hohenlohe, the German Ambassador at Paris, has, upon the occasion of his Majesty's return to Berlin, been decorated by the Emperor with the order of the Black Eagle.

Prince Gortschakoff had an audience of the Emperor and Crown Prince on Monday, before leaving for St. Petersburg.

Count Carolyi, Austrian Ambassador, had an audience of the Emperor on Wednesday, and presented his letters of recall.

The Lower House of the Prussian Diet discussed on Wednesday a motion by Herr Windthorst in favour of an alteration of the law by which religious orders and congregations are dissolved. This was energetically opposed by Dr. Falk, the Minister of Public Worship, who alluded to the negotiations between Germany and the Vatican, and declared that the Government could not agree to the proposal to let matters rest by not giving effect to the existing law. In the result, the House rejected the motion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Archduke Rudolf, Crown Prince of Austria, has accidentally shot himself in the left hand, but it is not expected that the consequences will be serious.

The Austrian Delegation decided on Saturday last to adjourn the debate on the Government projects relative to the extraordinary expenses of the occupation of 1878 and 1879, and voted twenty millions for the maintenance of the troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina up to May, the time when the Russian troops ought to evacuate the Turkish territory. Before the vote all the three Ministers who are common to the two countries defended the Eastern policy of the Government against the attacks of the Opposition, and justified the occupation as a measure indispensable for the defence of the Monarchy. Count Andrássy protested against the charge that he had deceived Parliament as to the intentions of the Government. In the sitting of the

Joint Committee of the Hungarian Delegation on Tuesday a similar motion was agreed to on condition of a statement being furnished of the purposes to which it was applied.

The reconstruction of the new Hungarian Ministry is completed, and the Ministers took their seats in the House last Saturday. Count Szapary and Baron Kemeny are the only new members—the former for Finance and the latter for Commerce. The Lower House on Monday discussed a motion, brought forward by Herr Irányi, to place the Treaty of Berlin upon the order of the day for the consideration of the House. Several speakers, amongst them Count Apponyi, supported the motion; but Herr Tisza, the Minister-President, having declared that a vote of the Legislature as to the validity or the acceptance or non-acceptance of international treaties was inadmissible, the motion was rejected by 151 votes to 96.

In the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath on Tuesday, after a short debate, a motion was adopted appointing a Committee of eighteen to consider the Treaty of Berlin. The Ministers voted for the motion. In reply to a question, Baron Depretis said that a common Austro-Hungarian loan to defray the expenses of administration in Bosnia was out of the question.

DENMARK.

In consequence of the refusal of the Folkething to vote the Government bill authorising a loan for the restoration of the works destroyed during the recent riots in the island of Santa Cruz, the Chamber has been dissolved by Royal decree.

Authorisation has been telegraphed by the Government to the Governor of Santa Cruz to grant administrative loans to an amount not exceeding 500,000 crowns, for the purpose of restoring the sugar plantations destroyed in the negro riots.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor of Russia on the 5th inst. held a review on the Champ de Mars, in St. Petersburg, the force paraded being composed of forty-seven battalions of infantry and thirty-seven squadrons of cavalry, with 116 guns, numbering in all 35,000 men. Many foreign officers were present.

Princess Dagmar, the wife of the Cesarewitch, gave birth to a son on the 4th inst., and the infant has already been baptised by the name of Michael Alexandrowitch.

The 109th anniversary of the foundation of the Order of St. George was celebrated last Sunday, on which occasion the Grand Duke Constantinovitch took the usual oath on attaining his majority. The Emperor held a public reception at the Palace, and conferred several decorations.

The Emperor has addressed a letter to General Timacheff, the late Minister of the Interior, accepting his resignation, thanking him for the services he has rendered, and conferring upon him the Vladimir Order of the First Class. A decree of the Emperor has been issued appointing General Timacheff a member of the Senate, and Privy Councillor Makoff Provisional Minister of the Interior.

Prince Gortschakoff arrived at St. Petersburg on Wednesday.

A telegram from St. Petersburg states that the Admiralty has under consideration a plan for the formation of a Naval Reserve on the English system.

News from the Russo-Chinese frontier received at St. Petersburg announces that the force at Aksu, on the frontier, under the command of the Chinese General Tsin-Tsian-Tsoon, destined to act against Kuldja, has been reinforced by about 1000 men. Information brought by scouts to the Russian commandant at Fort Naryn estimates the total number of the Chinese troops in Kashgar at 3000, instead of the reported effective of 12,000.

TURKEY.

At an audience which Count Zichy, the Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople, had of the Sultan on Sunday, his Majesty is stated to have assured him that the Porte would make the Treaty of Berlin the basis of its policy, and that the Sultan was greatly desirous of establishing friendly relations with Austria.

A Times' telegram from Philippopolis states that the Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia has presented to the European Commission a demand for about 23,000,000f. as the expenses of military occupation by a corps of 25,000 men during the nine months from the beginning of August, 1878, until the end of April, 1879.

Mahmoud Damad Pasha was summoned during Monday night to the Sultan's palace and appointed Governor of Tripoli.

Hassan Pasha (formerly Sheik-ul-Islam), Nedjib Pasha, and other persons have been sent into the provinces. The cause of this step is said to have been the discovery of intrigues against the Government.

GREECE.

The Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday ratified the agreement recently arrived at between the Greek Government and the bondholders of the loans of 1824 and 1825.

ROUMANIA.

The Ministry has been constituted as follows:—M. Bratișoianu, President of the Council, Minister of the Interior and Minister of War, ad interim; M. Sturdza, Minister of Finance; M. Căpățeanu, Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Stănescu, Minister of Justice; M. Ferichidi, Minister of Public Works; M. Cantili, Minister of Public Worship and Instruction. The Metropolitan of Roumania has been elected President, and M. Demeter Ghika and M. Bosianu Vice-Presidents of the Senate. The two latter are Liberal-Conservatives and represent the Centre party. The Chambers are discussing a bill to prevent the alienation of land by the peasants under the rural law. Assent has been given by the Chamber of Deputies to the Convention between Roumania and Turkey for the repatriation of the Turkish prisoners captured by the Roumanian troops during the late war.

Tuesday being the anniversary of the capture of Plevna, the occasion was observed as a general holiday throughout Roumania, and services in commemoration of the event were held in all the churches.

SERVIA.

Of six deputies named by the Skuptschina, Prince Milan has selected M. Tazkakovitch, to be President, and M. Vasitch Vice-President of that Assembly. Prince Milan formally opened the Skuptschina on the 5th inst. He was accompanied by all the Ministers, and his Speech from the Throne was received with enthusiastic cheers. It declared that the equal rights of Servian subjects of all religious denominations should be recognised.

Egypt.

The Council of Ministers, acting in concert with the Caisse of the Public Debt, have decided upon the amalgamation of the functions of the English and French controllers-general. One controller-general will be appointed by the Minister of Finance, but in order still further to strengthen the guarantees given to the Egyptian bondholders by the Khedive's decrees of May 7 and Nov. 18, 1876, respecting the provinces specially set apart for the service of the debt, a delegate of the Caisse of the Public Debt will act as appropriation auditor, in order to see that each item of personal taxation is passed in accordance with the respective Budget items.

AMERICA.

The House of Representatives at Washington has refused, by 154 votes to 91, to pass the bill prohibiting the further

coinage of trade dollars, and directing that they should be exchanged for and recoined into standard silver dollars. The Diplomatic Appropriation Bill has been passed. It reduces the salaries of the American Ministers to England, France, Germany, and Russia from 17,500 dols. to 15,000 dols.; Spain, Austria, Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, and China, which are now 12,000 dols., to 10,000 dols. The bill abolishes the missions to Belgium and the Netherlands; the charges of missions to Denmark and Switzerland and the salaries of Consuls are also generally reduced. The bill gives to the President 20,000 dols. to expend at his discretion in the diplomatic service. The *Times*' correspondent at Philadelphia states that the Senate will certainly amend the bill by restoring the present salaries, when last Session's conflict on this subject will be renewed.

General Wade Hampton, Governor of South Carolina, has been elected United States Senator by the Legislature of that State.

A telegram from New York on Wednesday states that a storm from the south-east had been raging during the last two days, causing much damage throughout the country. There had been railway accidents owing to the floods, attended, in some instances, by fatal results.

The American correspondent of the *Times* states that General Grant has telegraphed from Europe to the Secretary of the Navy stating that he will make a tour of the East Indies, China, and Japan, and accepting the offer of the Government to place a vessel at his service. The steamer Richmond, flagship of the American Asiatic squadron, leaves the United States this week for that purpose.

AUSTRALIA.

A telegram from Melbourne, dated Dec. 6, states that the Victoria Parliament was prorogued on Nov. 30; and one from Sydney, of the same date, announces that the New South Wales Government has been defeated on the Land Bill.

NEW ZEALAND.

The New Zealand Parliament was prorogued on Nov. 2. The Electoral Bill was previously withdrawn.

JAPAN.

The Mikado has returned to Yedo from his tour through the country. A decree has been promulgated regulating the purchase and sale of opium.

The Legislature of Ontario will meet on Jan. 9 next.

There is a famine at Mogador, in Morocco, and about twenty-five persons are said to be dying daily.

The elections in Newfoundland have resulted in the return of candidates supporting the present Ministry.

M. François Schille, formerly professor at the Lycée Bonaparte, has been charged by the Tycoon with the direction of the Franco-Japanese College at Yokohama.

The Albert medal of the Second Class has been conferred by the Queen on Mr. W. Buyers, late second mate of the ship Harlaw, of Aberdeen, for his gallant conduct when that ship was wrecked off the coast of China.

The Agent-General for New South Wales has been informed by telegram of the arrival in Sydney of the ship Hereford, which sailed from Plymouth with emigrants in September last.—Intelligence has been received of the arrival at their destinations of the ships Waitara and Opawa, conveying emigrants to The Bluff and Canterbury, New Zealand.

A *Daily News* telegram from New York says that Mr. Edison authorises the statement that his electric light is produced by the incandescence of an alloy of platinum and iridium. The conductor is of peculiar form and arrangement. A simple adjustable apparatus attached to each lamp regulates the amount of electricity it shall draw from the main current.

The captain of her Majesty's ship Orontes has telegraphed to the Admiralty from Malta that there is no truth in the report that fourteen men belonging to that vessel were lost between Halifax and Bermuda by the capsizing of a boat which was going to rescue a man who had fallen overboard. No deaths or serious accidents have occurred to the crew since leaving England.

Mails for Australia and New Zealand, via San Francisco, will be despatched from London during the ensuing year as follows:—Thursday, Jan. 2, 1879; Thursday, Jan. 30; Thursday, Feb. 27; Thursday, March 27; Thursday, April 24; Thursday, May 22; Thursday, June 19; Thursday, July 17; Thursday, Aug. 14; Thursday, Sept. 11; Thursday, Oct. 9; Thursday, Nov. 6; and Thursday, Dec. 4.

The King of Bavaria has undertaken the construction of a palace after the model of that of Versailles, on the island of Herren-Chiemsee. The circumference of the palace will be enormous, and it will take fifteen years to finish it. The cost of the construction is estimated at £1,800,000. Bricks are the principal building material. A canal is to cross the island, and a lighthouse is to be erected.

The Queen has approved of the following colonial appointments:—Sir George F. Bowen, G.C.M.G., now Governor of Victoria, to be Governor of Mauritius, on the retirement of Sir Arthur P. Phayre, G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., C.B.; the Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., now Governor of New Zealand, to be Governor of Victoria; and Sir Hercules Robinson, G.C.M.G., now Governor of New South Wales, to be Governor of New Zealand.—The following colonial appointments are announced in the *Gazette*:—Messrs. Roger Beckwith Leefe and John Hill to be members of the Legislative Council of the Colony of Fiji; Mr. William Henry Hall to be a member of the Legislative Council of the Bahama Islands; and Mr. Solomon Baber Isaacs to be a member of the Legislative Council of Tobago.

We are informed that the Government of New South Wales has requested Mr. William Forster, Agent-General for the colony, Professor Liversidge, of the University of Sydney, and Mr. E. Combes, M.P., C.M.G., to collect information in the United Kingdom and on the Continent relating to the working of English and foreign technological museums and colleges, with a view to forming similar institutions in Sydney. A sum of money has been placed on the estimates by the Government of the colony to enable the committee to purchase suitable specimens. The Agent-General for New South Wales, 3, Westminster-chambers, S.W., will be glad to receive from such institutions, or from any other source, reports or any information which would assist the committee in its inquiries.

Sir Charles Reed on Wednesday informed the School Board for London that he had received a communication from the President of the French Republic acknowledging his services in the education section of the Paris Exhibition, and forwarding the decoration of an officer of the Legion of Honour, and that a special diploma had been granted to the board. The business before the board included the reception of the fifth general report of the Statistical Committee, which, after a discussion, was agreed to.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

- Allen, John, to be Honorary Canon of Manchester Cathedral.
- Aston, J. W., to be Vicar of Ambleside, Westmoreland.
- Baker, Walter C., Rector of Batcombe-cum-Upton Noble, Somerset.
- Partholomew, Christopher Churchill, Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral.
- Bunson, Henry G. de, Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral.
- Circuit, R. W. Perry, Curate of South Weald; Vicar of Chelsey.
- Cooper, Richard, Rector of Swayfield.
- Crosby, Howard A., Vicar of Milnrow, Rochdale.
- Davies, Thomas, Chaplain of Cardiff Gaol.
- Dundas, Charles, Prebendary of Liddington in Lincoln Cathedral.
- Edwards, A., Vicar of Kirkland, Cumberland.
- Fisher, Cecil E., Vicar of Grantham.
- Fox, George Edmund, Rector of Swillington, near Leeds.
- Greenhill, W. R., Curate of Hawkhurst; Rector of Newenden, Kent.
- Hodson, T., Vicar of Barton, Westmoreland.
- Jolers, C. H., Senior Curate of the Parish Church of Lancaster.
- Johnson, H. C. H., Missionary at Exploits, Newfoundland.
- Johnson, Reginald M., Curate-in-Charge of Hemsworth, near Doncaster.
- Jones, Joseph Frederick, Perpetual Curate of Chapel Hill, Monmouthshire.
- Jupp, C., Warden of the Scottish Church Orphanage and Chaplain to the Primus of Scotland.
- Kennedy, M. V., Vicar of Castle Sowerby, Cumberland.
- Lakeman, George, Incumbent of St. Paul's, Glasgow.
- Linton, E. F., Rector of St. George's, Manchester; Vicar of Sprowston.
- Loxley, A. S., Minor Canon; Vicar of Fairford.
- Oldacre, G., Curate of Brighthouse; Perpetual Curate of Illingworth.
- Perry, Charles, Canon of Llandaff Cathedral.
- Philips, James, Rector of Cucklington-cum-Stoke Trister and Bayford.
- Plant, Samuel, Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral.
- Snowdon, J. H., Vicar of Hammersmith.
- Skinner, R., Vicar of Dacre, Cumberland.
- Stuart, J., Rector of Portishead.
- Temple, R., Rural Dean of Notre Dame Bay, Newfoundland.
- Wilkinson, Dr., Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral.—*Guardian*.

The Grocers' Company has given £100 to the Clergy Orphan Schools.

The Bishop of Rochester has accepted the resignation of the Rev. Arthur Tooth, Vicar of St. James's, Ilfracombe.

Dr. Baring, Bishop of Durham, is about to resign his see in consequence of ill-health. Having some private means, he will not accept a retiring pension.

Canon Beadon, Rector of North Stoneham, near Southampton, who on Friday, the 6th inst., entered his 102nd year, is in good health and retains all his faculties.

St. Jude's Church, Chelsea, has been provided with new pitch-pine open seats and a handsome new pulpit at the cost of the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Dalton.

Dr. Vaughan, the Master of the Temple, under medical advice, has given up the special Advent services on Wednesday evenings for the present year.

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have granted £1000 towards the cost of a parsonage for the vicarage of St. Saviour, Battersea Park, to be in substitution for a yearly sum of £33 6s. 8d. heretofore granted to the Incumbent.

There has just been erected in Manfield church, near Darlington, a handsome Munich window in memory of Anne, widow of Richard Bassett Wilson, of Cliffe, who died July 11, 1877, aged fifty-seven. It has been executed by Messrs. Mayer.

Dr. MacLagan, Bishop of Lichfield, having become aware of the dearth of religious teaching in the district of Wood Setton, Sedgley, has intimated his willingness to give £500 towards the maintenance of a clergyman during the next five years.

A stained-glass window has lately been presented to North Waltham church, Hants, by Miss Emily Wolfe, late of Micheldever, in remembrance of her brother, the late Mr. John Roblyn Wolfe.

The Revisers of the Authorised Version of the New Testament met on Tuesday at the Jerusalem Chamber for their eighty-fifth session. The Company carried on their second revision to the tenth chapter of the Revelation.

On Monday morning the parish Church of St. Peter, near Bridgwater, which was reopened on Easter Tuesday, after having undergone restoration at an expense of nearly £1500, was destroyed by fire. The fire evidently originated in an overheated flue, which ignited a portion of the roof.

A handsome tea and coffee service of silver and a purse of gold have been presented to the Rev. C. A. and Mrs. de Lusignan by the inhabitants of Over-Wyresdale, Lancaster, on their leaving that parish after a residence there of more than twenty-two years.

The Rev. Daniel Trinder, M.A., on his leaving Teddington—in which parish he had laboured with so much zeal and energy for a period of twenty-one years—has been presented with a purse containing 250 guineas, together with a silver salver and library clock; also numerous presents from the choir, bible class, Sunday schools, &c.

A meeting of the leading clergy and laity of the county of Shropshire took place at Shrewsbury last Saturday, to take steps for aiding the endowment fund of the new diocese of Southwell. The Bishop of Lichfield presided, and it was resolved that an endeavour should be made to raise £6000 as the share of Salop towards the requisite endowment.

On All Saints' Day the Bishop of Chichester consecrated a beautiful little church at Roffey, an outlying district of Horsham. It was designed by Mr. Blomfield, and consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle. The church, with its fittings and adornments, was erected at the expense of Mrs. Gertrude Martyn, in memory of her husband, Cecil Edward Martyn (late of the Carabiniers), who died in Algiers in 1870. The font is the gift of her mother, Mrs. Hudstone, and the lectern of her brother.

The new Church of All Saints', in Devonshire-street, South Lambeth, was opened for public worship on the 4th inst. In the building, the architect, Mr. Bedborough, has adopted the characteristics of the church architecture of the thirteenth century. Among the decorations noticeable are the windows in the chancel, of painted glass, executed by Messrs. Lavers, Barraud, and Westlake: the centre one presented by the congregation as a testimonial to the Vicar, and a second one given by the senior Curate, the Rev. John B. Chandler. The baptistery window of two lights was presented by Mr. J. H. Batty, as a memorial of his deceased wife.

The following churches have recently been reopened:—The church of Boughton, Gifford, which has been restored under the care of Mr. Oldrid Scott; of Stourton, near Bath, after a restoration by Mr. Swinfen-Harris, jun.; of St. Odolphus, Pillaton, near Saltash; of St. Bartholomew, Croxdale, near Durham, enlarged by Mr. Hodgson Fowler; of Llanfihangel-y-strad, in Cardiganshire, restored by Captain Vaughan, the architect being Mr. Middleton; of Sevenoaks, restored at a cost of £4000; of Elmley Castle, Worcestershire, restored by Mr. Preedy; of Shelton, near Newark, Notts; of Hornby church, near Bedale, after undergoing thorough restoration and improvement, at a cost of £6000, the whole of which was contributed by the Duke and Duchess of Leeds.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The South Middlesex mustered at Beaumont House, Walhamgreen on Saturday evening, when the prizes were distributed by Lieutenant-Colonel Wyld. Sergeant Pullman (Queen's Prizeman, 1876) took the first prize in the third series, and Corporal T. Pullman took Lord Ranleigh's prize for the highest aggregate in three series, the first in the gold medal series, the challenge cup (given by the Rev. Kerr Gray), and Mr. J. Godwin's £20, and also holds the three-star badge.

The members of the 9th (Westminster) Middlesex had their prizes presented to them last Saturday evening at the Eyre Arms by their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Barber. The chief prize-winners were Private Ingram (best shot in the battalion), Private Partington, Private May, Private Clayton, and Private L. H. Marks. A dance concluded the proceedings.

The prizes of the St. George's were distributed on the 5th inst., at Willis's Rooms, by Miss Lindsay, daughter of the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. H. Lindsay. The Regimental Challenge Cup and Gold Medal were won by Sergeant-Instructor Andrews; the Turner Challenge Plate was won by Private W. C. Williams; and the Ladies' Challenge Plate by Private H. Snowdon. The best shot of the battalion is Private Pickwick.

The fifth competition for the Regimental Challenge Cup and Badges of the 26th Kent was held at the Inner Range, Plumstead, last Saturday. Corporal Frost was the winner of the Challenge Cup. The winners of the Badges were—Major J. D. C. Farrell, Captain J. Foglie, and Private Evans.

The annual general meeting of the South London Rifle Club was held last week at the club-house, Nunhead, under the presidency of Major Young, 39th Middlesex Rifles. The statement of accounts showed a small balance in favour of the club. The club jewels won during the past season were presented to the successful competitors, and arrangements were made for the ensuing season, the subscriptions being fixed at £1 1s. with an entrance fee of 5s. to new members.

On Monday evening there was a brilliant attendance of ladies and gentlemen in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on the occasion of the annual presentation of prizes to the members of the 5th Lancashire (the Liverpool Rifle Brigade), the leading corps of the town. Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Tinley, the commanding officer, was supported by the principal inhabitants of the district and many volunteer officers of other battalions. The prizes were delivered by Major-General Robertson, C.B. Lieutenant-Colonel Tinley spoke of the continued increase, both in numbers and efficiency, of the regiment, which was now 983 strong. Sir Thomas Edwards-Moss, Bart., also briefly addressed the regiment.

The annual presentation of prizes to the 3rd London by the Lord Mayor will take place in the Guildhall, and that of the West London (4th Middlesex) in St. George's Hall, Langham-place, this (Saturday) evening.

Lord Ruthven, late Captain, Rifle Brigade, has been appointed Major of the London Scottish, in the room of Sir Henry Pelly, M.P., deceased, and the *London Gazette* notifies the succession as Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of Major Henry Lumsden, of Pitcaple Castle, vice Lord Elcho, appointed honorary Colonel.

CATTLE SHOWS.

The Smithfield Club Cattle Show, which opened on Monday, has been one of the most successful in the history of that organisation. Her Majesty, the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of Sutherland, Richmond and Gordon, Manchester, Roxburgh, and Marlborough, the Marquis of Exeter, the Marchioness of Camden, Lords Powis, Jersey, Braybrooke, Walsingham, and Darnley were amongst the exhibitors. The Prince of Wales visited the hall on Monday. In the last ten years the Champion Plate of £100 for the best beast has been won eight times by shorthorns, once by a Devon, and once by a polled Aberdeen. This year it is a shorthorn heifer which carries off the great prize. Icicle, the roan heifer of Mr. Richard Stratton, of the Duffryn, Newport, Monmouthshire, which at Oakham last year won the chief honour and at Birmingham carried off the Elkington Challenge Cup, takes the first prize of £25 in her class, the £40 silver cup as best shorthorn, the £50 silver cup as best cow or heifer in the hall, and the Champion Plate as best beast in the hall. The Queen and the Prince of Wales have fourteen entries in the cattle classes, but only three of them take prizes. Mr. J. S. Bult, of Taunton, exhibited the best ox in the show.—The annual general meeting of the Smithfield Club took place on Tuesday, the Duke of Bedford in the chair. On the motion of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, seconded by Lord Walsingham, Colonel Kingscote, M.P., was elected president for 1879, and Lord Tredegar was chosen president for 1880. Sir Brandreth Gibbs was unanimously elected one of the vice-presidents.

The annual winter show of fat cattle, sheep, &c., in connection with the Royal Dublin Society was opened on Tuesday in the society's premises, Kildare-street. The display of fat cattle was unusually good, the numbers being largely in excess of last year's numbers, and the condition excellent. There was also a good display of sheep and a splendid show of poultry, the entries in the latter section being 444.

The winter cattle show at Leeds, which lasted three days, was opened on Tuesday by the Mayor. The total entries numbered 1036, of which eighty were for cattle, thirty-four for sheep, sixty-four for pigs, and the remainder for poultry, rabbits, and roots.

The Birmingham Cattle Show closed on the 5th inst. During the five days it was open 65,830 persons were admitted. Last year the number was 53,501. The receipts amounted to £2010, as against £1673 last year.—The Dog Show at Birmingham, which closed on the 6th inst., was a great success, 19,500 persons being admitted, and the receipts being £820.

The annual sale of the Queen's fat cattle was held at the Prince Consort Farm, Frogmore, on Wednesday. Good prices were obtained in most instances, the sale including thirty-six prime shorthorn bullocks, which fetched from £27 10s. to £45; 200 Down sheep, 76s. to 100s. each; and 120 bacon hogs and porkers, 85s. to £9 10s. each.

Since our last issue we have received the Christmas Number of Tinsley's Magazine, written by B. L. Farjeon, and entitled "The Mystery of Roaring Meg," a tale of the Australian gold-diggings, with a thread of fairy lore running through it; that of Once a Week, named "A Gilded Pill," a domestic story of deep interest, by G. Manville Fenn; and that of the Monthly Packet, edited by the author of "The Heir of Redclyffe," consisting of several tales. The first two publications are illustrated.—Amongst the many humorous publications intended to make us merry at the Christmas fireside is one issued from the Fun office, entitled "The British Working Man, by one who does not believe in him." The illustrations are by Mr. J. F. Sullivan.



THE MARQUIS OF LORNE AND PRINCESS LOUISE LANDING AT HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

PARLIAMENT.

DEBATES ON THE AFGHAN WAR.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

With customary dispatch the House came to a decision on the important question which had called Parliament together after three nights' discussion. On Thursday week Lord Beaconsfield virtually closed the debate on the Address in a vigorous speech, remarkably terse and pugnacious, challenging Earl Granville to divide the House as he entertained such antagonistic views against the Government as those he had given expression to. Earl Granville clung to his Fabian tactics, however, and prevailed on Earl Grey to withdraw his amendment; and so the Address in reply to the Queen's Speech came to be agreed to. But on Friday week (after the Lord Chancellor had been sworn in as Earl Cairns on his elevation a step in the peccary) the Earl of Cork gave notice of a fresh amendment on behalf of Lord Halifax.

The battle proper began in the Upper Chamber on Monday after Earl Beauchamp, the Lord Steward, had brought forward the following answer from her Majesty to the Address of their Lordships:—

My Lords.—I thank you sincerely for your loyal and dutiful Address, and assure you that you may rely on my heartfelt desire to co-operate with you in promoting the happiness and welfare of all parts of my Empire.

Lord Cranbrook forthwith rose, and, on behalf of the Government, delivered an impetuous attack, marked by his usual loud and rapid (far too rapid for the comfort of the reporters) mode of utterance. The gist of the Secretary for India's rushing oration was that his Government had inherited from Mr. Gladstone's Ministry the sulky enmity of the Ameer Shere Ali; that, to place our relations with Afghanistan on a better

footing, the Marquis of Salisbury had instructed Lord Lytton to negotiate for the placing of British officers on the Afghan frontier; that, whilst the Ameer had declined to receive these British Envoys, a Russian Mission had been ostentatiously welcomed at Cabul; that, thereupon, Major Cavagnari asked permission of the Commandant at Ali Musjid to allow General Sir Neville Chamberlain's Mission to proceed to Cabul, but that not only was permission refused but no answer was sent within the given time by the Ameer to Lord Lytton's Ultimatum; and that war was, thereupon, declared against Shere Ali. Lord Cranbrook remarked that the estimate for the Afghan War during the present financial year would not exceed £1,100,000 or £1,200,000. The surplus on the Indian Budget would not be less than £2,136,000; so that, taking the cost of the war to be a million and a quarter, there would be a surplus of about £500,000. Such were, in brief, the arguments adduced by Lord Cranbrook in support of the resolution which he moved, viz.:—

That, her Majesty having directed a military expedition of her forces charged upon Indian revenues to be dispatched against the Ameer of Afghanistan, this House consents that the revenues of India shall be applied to defray the expenses of the military operations which may be carried on beyond the external frontiers of her Majesty's Indian possessions.

Lord Halifax, having been many years Secretary for India as Sir Charles Wood (during Lord Palmerston's last term of office), cannot fairly be accused of any lack of patriotism. Yet it was this venerable statesman (his Lordship is seventy-eight) who with admirable precision and method, albeit he shared the general inaudibility of the front Opposition Bench, marshalled a host of facts to show that the conciliatory policy maintained towards Shere Ali up to and during the Viceroyalty of Lord Northbrook was the most just and prudent course to follow. Being of this opinion, Lord Halifax moved this amendment:—

To leave out from the word "House," to the end of the motion, for the purpose of inserting, "while ready to consent to providing the means necessary for bringing the war in which we are unhappily engaged to a safe and honourable conclusion, regrets the conduct pursued by the Government which has unnecessarily engaged this country in the contest."

Lord Lawrence gave the weight of his great experience as Governor-General of India in support of the amendment. In doing so, the noble Lord at the outset declared he viewed with as much concern as anyone the approach of Russia to Afghanistan; but he also held it would be unwise of us to go beyond our north-west frontier to anticipate the attacks of Russia; and he maintained that the war was unjust and impolitic. The Earl of Derby, while he could not join in a censure of the policy pursued up to 1878, believed the Viceroy and his advisers had precipitated a war that might have been avoided with a little patience; and a war that, being unnecessary, could not be just. The Duke of Somerset followed in support of the Government; but the Earl of Carnarvon, in a brief and earnest speech, could see nothing in the correspondence to justify the war. Lord Napier and Ettrick spoke for, and the Earl of Aberdeen and the Earl of Airlie against, the resolution.

Earl Grey was first to open fire on the Government on Tuesday, and he brought an able speech to a close by protesting against the cost of this "unrighteous war" being thrown on India. The Lord Chancellor smartly replied. He called their Lordships to imagine the northern part of Scotland in the hands of a warlike, independent nation, with a vast and ambitious Empire to the north again but "tending to more southwards." Given, in addition, a range of high mountains between England and Scotland, and the analogy would be complete, he thought. But, if such were the case, would the House trouble itself about "diplomatic etiquette?" "Would not, rather, both sides of the House be urging the Government of the country to take those steps which were absolutely necessary to make secure the position of this country in regard to this northern neighbour?" Having taken the bull by the horns thus at the beginning, Earl Cairns entered into a series of quotations from despatches to show that the Government were justified in the course they had adopted. From the same source, however, Lord Selborne culled a number of passages to prove that the war ought to have been avoided. Lord Houghton, the Marquis of Bath, the Earl of Jersey, the Marquis of Ripon, and Lord Middleton having spoken, Lord Northbrook again showed what energy he could display when put upon his mettle. The ex-Viceroy argued that the new policy had alienated the Ameer, and that no advantage could be derived from the war. The Marquis of Salisbury applied his vocabulary of sarcasm to Lord Lawrence and other opponents of the Ministry, and vigorously defended the action of the Government in bringing Shere Ali to reason. Lord Cardwell briefly replied; and Lord Beaconsfield closed the debate in the small hours. The Prime Minister was exceedingly lively, boldly justified a rectification of our north-west frontier, and appealed to the House not to be influenced by the Peace-at-any-Price party. In the division, there were 201 Contests, 65 Non-Contents—a majority of 136 for the Government. The engagement over, the House adjourned to Tuesday next.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The affability with which Sir Stafford Northcote received the mild opposition offered to the Government on the opening night of the Session led to the expectation that the Address would be agreed to as a matter of form, and that the real fight would take place on one or the other of the independent resolutions of which notice was given. But the second sitting told a different tale. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would grant no facilities to the bold spirits who would dare to

question the policy of the Government. So, after much discussion and recrimination, it was decided that Mr. Whitbread should move his amendment on the report of the Address.

No Liberal could have been chosen outside the front Opposition bench fitter than Mr. Whitbread for the important task of opening the debate on Monday. The hon. member for Bedford is possessed of a very evenly balanced mind, and is so deeply imbued with the judicial faculty that he would have made an excellent Judge. These qualities, combined with thorough-going earnestness, were conspicuous in the admirable speech in which he advanced a mass of evidence from the Parliamentary papers on Afghanistan to show cause why the Commons should sanction his amendment:—

That this House disapproves the conduct of her Majesty's Government which has resulted in the war with Afghanistan.

With more than the ordinary self-sufficiency and confidence of youth did Mr. Stanhope at one and the same time give an exhibition of his elocutionary powers, and glibly make answer unto Mr. Whitbread in accordance with the text of Lord Cranbrook's Party despatch to Lord Lytton. In lieu of the weighing and consideration of arguments pro and con., there was an obstinate citation of every paper that strengthened the case of the Government, and a blind avoidance of passages which told against them. The Ministerial *mot d'ordre* was, doubtless, followed in this respect by Mr. Stanhope, for the same partial tone was observable in every one of the defenders of the Government in both Houses of Parliament. Among the succeeding speakers Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. W. E. Forster earnestly condemned the new Afghan policy, which was, on the other hand, defended in an able maiden speech by Mr. Ridley.

There was an element of humour in the opening phases of the debate on Tuesday. Lord John Manners, a jerky and jaunty replica of the Prime Minister in action and in mode of speech, loftily declared that it would be unnecessary for him even to remove the elastic band from the Blue Book to refute the arguments that had been marshalled against the Government. But his Lordship had speedily to repent him of this bit of "masterly inactivity." Mr. Gladstone so effectively analysed the discrepancies, inaccuracies, and misrepresentations which he had found in Parliamentary papers that presently the noble Lord involuntarily removed the elastic band from his Blue Book and checked the passages in question as the right hon. gentleman read them out. The speech of Mr. Gladstone lasted two hours, and was marvellously effective, point following point in such rapid succession that Ministers had good cause to shuffle uneasily in their seats. Thus, in answer to paragraph nine in Lord Cranbrook's oft-referred-to despatch, Mr. Gladstone pointed out among other things that Sir Lewis Pelly's report showed that the Ameer's special Envoy acknowledged that the usual friendship between the two countries existed up to the departure of Lord Northbrook, who had thoroughly reassured the Ameer. Coming to the vital point of Shere Ali's acceptance of the Russian Mission at Cabul, he dwelt on the fact that the Marquis of Salisbury had tacitly admitted the reasonableness of Russia's explanations, and yet the Government had declared war against the Ameer, and, as recompense, proposed to appropriate the territory of the neutral tribes! An ex-comedian of the House, presumably of opinion that "Life's a joke, and all things show it," has this week ventured to carp at the "excitability" of Mr. Gladstone. On jokers of his type the lofty flight of eloquence with which Mr. Gladstone concluded his fine speech would, perhaps, be thrown away. But the House generally cheered long and warmly the noble peroration with which the right hon. gentleman, in deep and solemn tones, concluded the assertion that "those members of this House who oppose your course will believe that they have performed a duty incumbent upon men who believe that truth and justice are the only sure foundations of international relations, and that there is no possession so precious, either for peoples or for men, as a just and honourable name." Of sound and fury, signifying nothing, did Sir Robert Peel's pretentious reply consist. Mr. Leatham was followed by Mr. Forsyth. Sir Charles Dilke rather disturbed the deportment of Sir Robert Peel. Government had seemingly no one of greater weight than the complacent young Lord George Hamilton to put up afterwards; and Mr. Grant Duff moved the adjournment of the debate to Thursday. On Wednesday, it may be mentioned, in passing, the House did a little practical business by advancing a few bills a stage.

On Thursday the adjourned debate upon the proposed vote of censure of the Government was prefaced by a very brief but pungent statement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, which was received with vociferous cheers from the Ministerial side of the House. In reply to a notice of a question by Sir W. Harcourt, intended to be put to the leader of the House on Friday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer expressed his desire to answer it on the instant, and then went on to say that when he stated the other night that the Russian Envoy had left Cabul he was speaking according to the information he had then received. Her Majesty's Government had understood, from what had passed between our representative and the Russian Government, that the departure of the Envoy was equivalent to the recall of the Russian Mission. But since he had made that statement her Majesty's Government received information which leads them to form a contrary opinion. The House, however, may rest assured that her Majesty's Government do not intend to acquiesce in the exercise of Russian influence in Afghanistan in this or any other form. In reply to Sir C. Dilke, Mr. Bourke said it was true that in October last Mr. Di Cesnola, an American subject, was tried before the District Court of Larnaca, in Cyprus, for excavating objects of antiquarian interest without a firman, and sentenced to a fine (which was remitted by Sir G. Wolseley) and the confiscation of the objects found. Every precaution would, however, be taken to secure a fair trial to all persons who were charged with any offences. Mr. Courtauld having taken the oath and his seat for Maldon, the adjourned debate on the proposed vote of censure was commenced by Mr. Grant Duff, who charged the Government with a policy directed to the annexation of Afghanistan, and defended the conduct of the Gladstone Cabinet as regarded its relations with the Ameer. Mr. Bourke, in a speech of considerable length, replied on behalf of the Government. The debate flagged much in interest as it became known that it would be carried over to another night, and that the greater guns would reserve their fire until the final stage. About midnight a further adjournment took place.

Early on Wednesday morning, during a thick fog, the mail-steamer Breeze, bound from Dover to Calais, ran ashore about 500 yards from the West Pier at the latter port. All the passengers and crew were landed, as well as the mails.

The working men of Ottawa, according a Reuter's telegram, have presented an address to Sir John Macdonald, the Dominion Premier, and Mr. Tupper, the Minister of Public Works.

The Extra Supplement.

"TELL ME!"

The tender confidences of girlish friendship are not lightly to be made the subject of a stranger's curious speculations; but we cannot look at the attitude of these two maidens, seated on a bench at the seaside, the one forgetful of her pitcher, the other of her knitting, both intent upon that engrossing theme, a half-confessed love affair, without trying to guess the purport of their conversation. That one of them is deeply in love with somebody, or imagines herself to be in love with him, may be read in the soft but steadfast gaze directed nowhere, the air of fondly rapt distraction, the folded hands and passive expectancy with which she meditates upon the absent idol of her affections. The other girl has not yet been told who he is, and she is neither more nor less inquisitive upon such matters than the generality of her sex. "Tell me!" or rather, at least, "only tell me! you know I never will tell anybody else;" this is the burden of her persuasive entreaty, which is pretty sure to earn its desired boon of a communication of her friend's secret. Let us hope that it will be received with generous sympathy; and that, if the object of this impassioned fancy be one whom it is well to love and trust, there will be a happy future in store for a couple of true lovers, while the confidante may, in due time, be called upon to officiate as a bride-maid at the village church.

HALF-HOURS OF A BLIND MAN'S HOLIDAY.

Two volumes published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Co., filled with half a hundred short tales and essays by Mr. W. W. Fenn, bear the title *Half-Hours of a Blind Man's Holiday*, which is explained by what the author tells us of himself in "My Own Story." He was a landscape artist of considerable talent, who fourteen years ago endured the loss of sight from a disease of the eyes, and has since been writing with merited public favour, in the popular magazines and papers. Now and then, as we hope our readers will remember, Mr. Fenn has contributed to this Journal. "The Bell Buoy" and "The Message of the Hour," and "Christmas Eve at Lonethorpe Manor" appeared in our Christmas Supplements, to the gratification of many of our friends. We observe that Mr. Fenn also calls this collection of his writings "Summer and Winter Sketches in Black and White." They are not deficient in the bright and vivid colouring of nature at every season; but he means, of course, that he now paints only with ink, and that with a pen held by his wife's hand. We can testify that the pen is used to good purpose in delineating, with unaffected gracefulness and impressiveness, the ideas of a powerful imagination and prolific fancy. These are inspired by an active sympathy with human feeling, perhaps the more intense for that deprivation of an outward sense which has led him to brood over the store of past experiences, refining, expanding, and deepening their moral import. Yet we are glad to learn, from the account of his own present habits, that he is still able to enjoy both rural nature and the cheerful bustle of town, as well as the society of his friends; and that this exercise of literature serves him as a sufficient vehicle of mental expression. The most appropriate commendation that we can bestow upon these tales, is to say that Mr. Fenn continues to practise very acceptably as an artist, but in a different medium, now using a good English vocabulary and style of description or narrative, instead of a brush with oil or water-colours. A remarkable effect of instant reality and pressing urgency is felt in most of these stories, which are usually supposed to be told by an eye-witness, or by some person connected with those engaged in the action. This method is probably more suitable to such brief narrative compositions, which are for the reading of an hour or half an hour, than to lengthened works of fiction, like "The Woman in White" of Mr. Wilkie Collins. It is the faculty of inventing and working out an original plot, in which many aspiring novelists and lighter story-tellers of our day are apt to fail; but Mr. Fenn possesses this faculty in no small degree. "The Romance of a Rescue," "In the Family," "The Drawing-Master's Story," "A Game of Thimblerig," and "A Private Inquiry" are tales of complex incident which afford that pleasing excitement of curiosity desired by the majority of readers. Some part, however, of this miscellany of papers has little or no fictitious ingredient, but consists of simple descriptive sketches or essays—for instance, those called "Leafless Trees," "London Landscape," "Summer in the Suburbs," and "The Roar of London." This last essay, together with the author's statements of his own hearing sensations, under the peculiar mental condition of blindness, may have a certain interest as exemplifying the mode in which the mind is affected by a derangement of the ordinary balance of the different sources of external impressions. "Feeling the Way," "Fingers versus Eyes," and "Leaves by a Listener" contain important testimony and suggestions upon the same theme of psychology; but we expect that most readers will prefer the tales of imaginary adventure, which bear such promising titles as "The Secret of the Stair," "A Mystery of the Cliffs," "Deed for Deed," and even "My Murder." The essays upon social manners, fashions, and customs are the fruit of shrewd observation and reflection, tempered with a quiet humour which makes them agreeable to the most indifferent mind. They are frequently occupied with the life and work of artists, whether in "A Studio Party," or sketching at Bettws-y-Coed, or submitting their productions to criticism and to "Collectors' Tastes." The two volumes are filled with so great a variety of entertaining matter, that almost every person, in every mood, will be sure to find what is likely to suit his disposition for the vacant hour.

The usual challenge for the University Boat-Race has been sent by the Cambridge Boat Club to that of Oxford.

We are desired to state that the late Francis Crawshay, whose death was recently noticed in this paper, married Laura, daughter of R. Crawshay, Esq., of Ottershaw Park, Surrey.

The stoppage of the Caledonian Bank led to a run on Friday and Saturday on the local Savings Bank. The other Scotch Banks have arranged to take over the branches of the Caledonian throughout the kingdom. In the Court of Session, on Saturday, consent was given to an agreement between the liquidators of the City of Glasgow Bank and the Caledonian Banking Company, by which the former secure enough to furnish payment of a call to the extent of £37,500 per share on the shares held by the Caledonian.—The West of England and South Wales District Bank, which has its head-quarters at Bristol with forty-two branches, has suspended payment. Its liabilities are estimated at three and a half millions, with locked-up assets to the like amount. In compliance with an application made to him on Monday, Vice-Chancellor Malins appointed Mr. Turquand and Mr. E. G. Clarke the provisional liquidators of this bank.



"TELL ME!" BY W. OLIVER.

FROM THE EXHIBITION IN THE FRENCH GALLERY.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

I am no very assiduous autograph-hunter; still, I like to possess, and I have a few big books at home full of specimens of the handwriting of distinguished persons—specimens which I have neither bought nor begged. I was looking through my letters from novelists recently. I found Victor Hugo, Dickens, Thackeray, Charles Reade, Jerrold, Edmond About, M. E. Braddon, Mrs. Gore, Mrs. Lynn Linton, Wilkie Collins, Edmund Yates, Harrison Ainsworth, Charles Lever, Shirley Brooks, Anthony Trollope, Albert Smith, Mark Lemon, Angus Reach, Florence Maryatt, Hawley Smart, and "Leo." "Leo" (whom wrote a capital military-sporting novel) was, I take it, poor "Kit" Pemberton, of the Guards, who was killed while witnessing, *en amateur*, a battle during the Franco-German War in 1870. It struck me as I closed the volume that I lacked epistles from two more writers of military romance and adventure—the author of "The Highlanders in Spain," "The Yellow Frigate," and "The Phantom Regiment," and especially the writer of those capital tales "Digby Grand," "General Bounce," and "Kate Coventry." But then I remembered that I had no kind of acquaintance with Grant or with Whyte-Melville.

Oddly enough, there came to me in the first days of December a very kind and courteous letter in which the writer, apologising for communicating with me without prior introduction, asked me for some information concerning a reduced gentleman (the son of a once noted journalist) who had applied to him for assistance, and who, in his application, had made use of my name. My correspondent went on to say that if the case was a *bond à faire* one he would willingly do what he could to relieve the poor gentleman. The letter was signed J. G. Whyte-Melville. I had got one of the autographs for which I had been longing. I wrote him back, stating that which I knew and thought of the case; and just four days afterwards I read with sincere grief in the newspapers that poor Whyte-Melville, while out hunting with the Vale of White Horse fox-hounds, had been thrown from his horse and killed on the spot.

Mem: Letters have appeared in the press discussing the question whether the Major was a "hard" rider or a "straight" rider, whether he went "lashing" away or "took his fences gently," and what not. I do not understand the technology of the hunting-field. It is enough for me to know that the author of "Digby Grand" was a dashing, brilliant, and graphic writer, and to be sure (from that letter) that he was a thoroughly kind-hearted and loveable man.

My "Echoes" (suspended last week owing to an attack of a malady which may be qualified as "Return to England-Home-and-Beauty-fog-influenza bronchitis) must needs this week be necrological. Alfred Wigan has died, and been laid to rest at Kensal Green since I last wrote. It must be more than forty years since that I saw him make his appearance, under the name of Sidney, at the St. James's Theatre (John Braham, proprietor and manager) in the character either of "Noodle," or "Doodle," in Fielding's burlesque of "Tom Thumb," in which John Pitt Harley played "Lord Grizzle," and my Mother the Princess Huncamunca. Some four years afterwards, when young Mr. Sidney had become Mr. Alfred Wigan again, and was rapidly making his way on the stage (at Covent Garden, I think; but I am not a collector of playbills, and cannot be certain on that head), I, being a precocious young nuisance of twelve, submitted to the rising actor a fearsome five-act tragedy called "Frédégonde," which I had written in French. Alfred Wigan was, next to the living Charles Lamb Kenney, the very best French-speaking Englishman that I ever came in contact with. I have an idea that Mr. Wigan did not think my five-act tragedy quite up to the Racine and Corneille standard; but he laughingly reminded me of "Frédégonde" ever so many years afterwards, when he was lessee and manager of the St. James's, and I wrote to ask him for a private box.

"Et pourtant il y avait quelque chose là," as André Chénier thoughtfully remarked, tapping his forehead, just as they were going to guillotine him. "Frédégonde," under more auspicious circumstances, ought to have made its way. There was a murder in almost every scene. Somebody was poisoned, or burnt, or put to the torture *coram publico* at the end of every act; and I think that, as a *dénouement*, the wicked French Queen was to be torn to pieces by wild horses (from Mr. Ducrow's stud at Astley's), or devoured by the wild dogs of Messrs. Coney and Blanchard. I forget which of the catastrophes was to happen; but I incline to the belief that it was the latter, because those were the days of that grand canine melodrama "The Murder of the Forest of Bondy; or, The Dog of Montargis."

Alfred Wigan retired from the stage (with that admirable actress, his wife) in the very fulness of his faculties, but his wretched health necessitated his withdrawal. I scarcely think that complete justice has yet been done by the press to his merits as an actor. A second place in his profession has been assigned to him by the *Times*. I would place him in the front rank as a genteel comedian, wellnigh unsurpassed in artistic finish and general accomplishments. Did you ever see him in "Still Waters Run Deep;" in the "Lady of St. Tropez;" in the "First Night" (an adaptation of the French "Père de la Débutante;" and especially in the part of the French usher, in Tom Taylor's "To Parents and Guardians.") In the pathetic vaudeville of "Monsieur Jaques" Alfred Wigan had a formidable precursor in the late Morris Barnett; and there were playgoers who professed to prefer Mr. Barnett's broken English to Mr. Wigan's. Yet, strange to relate, while Alfred Wigan was a perfect French scholar, Morris Barnett was a very imperfect one. It was the old story of the critics of the pig that squealed when his tail was pinched, and the merry-andrew who imitated the ululation of a pig under similarly irritating circumstances. The verdict of the majority was in favour of the apocryphal pig.

And why should there not be two camps in criticism, so long as we can carry on our critical polemics without becoming personally offensive to one another, and calling each other abusive names? I see by the public prints that, under the auspices of the Fine-Art Society in New Bond-street, a subscription is being got up to defray the amount of Mr. Ruskin's costs in the late action of Whistler v. Ruskin. From another source I am enabled to state that an influential committee is being organised to gather funds for the payment of Mr. Whistler's costs. Both plaintiff and defendant in this unhappy suit stand mulct at present in a sum of some six hundred pounds. Each has been presented with a very pretty oyster-shell, containing an "arrangement in mother of pearl." The fine fat oyster within falls to the share of the gentlemen of the long robe and the other legal benefactors concerned in the case.

And yet (when the costs have been paid) I can't help thinking that Mr. Whistler may deem himself very well off with his "arrangement in monotone"—the farthing which I am told he wears at his watch-chain. There is, believe me, a direr anguish than that of losing a law suit. It is that of

gaining it. I got some damages once—five hundred pounds—in an action for libel; and I do most sincerely hope that I shall never again undergo such ceaseless misery and wretchedness as I endured until the very last farthing of that ill-omened booty was spent. The great tribe of begging letter-writers came down upon me even as the waters come down at Lodore; and legions of friends of my youth who had been worsted in the Battle of Life issued forth from all kinds of hiding-places, "exceeding fierce," and demanding instant succour. All the Asylums, Hospitals, Refuges, and Homes sent me circulars. I think that the milkman "attached" the damages even before they were paid. I know that somebody else put a "distringas" upon them which it cost me more than a hundred pounds to remove. Fancy being tortured with a "distringas." Fancy being overwhelmed by passionate appeals from unknown people importuning you to become a director of the Patagonian Boot, Shoe, and Golosh Company (Limited); to advance two hundred and fifty pounds for the purpose of patenting a new atmospheric cow-milker; to purchase an undoubted Stradivarius fiddle; and to subscribe towards the purchase of an annuity for the three great-great-granddaughters of Dr. Titus Oates. I moodily took the last fifty pounds of these malevolent damages to Hombourg; staked the sum on the *couleur au trente et quarante*; and experienced a sensation of infinite relief when the croupier swept up the obnoxious gold. A clean sponge had been passed over a slate written all over with a history of unhappiness.

Dr. Millingen, one of the medical men who attended Lord Byron in his last illness, and who was present at the poet's death, at Missolonghi, on April 19, 1824, has just died at Constantinople. He had been during very many years a resident of the European suburb of Pera. Dr. Millingen was to the last full of reminiscences of Byron, and it is to be regretted that he has left behind him no written record of his intercourse with the poet. Such memoranda, it is stated, the Doctor had drawn up long since; but these precious notes, with all his other papers, were destroyed in the great fire at Pera in 1870. Mr. Trelawney is now nearly the only survivor among those who knew Byron intimately.

G. A. S.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

MUSIC PRIMERS.

This valuable series (published by Novello, Ewer, and Co) has recently received several important additions.

Herr Pauer has contributed an excellent treatise on Musical Forms, in which he deals with the various constructive features of sacred and secular, vocal and instrumental music, of the ancient and modern schools. His introductory portion is explanatory of accent, metre, rhythm, style, figure, melody, the period and its construction, and thematic work—the following sections—illustrative of all the important species of musical composition, being supplemented by an appendix devoted to melodrama, monodrama, duodrama, chamber music, drawing-room music, descriptive music, tone-painting, programme music, Schumann's fancy pieces, and obsolete forms. The book is full interest and instruction, and will aid the comprehension and enjoyment of all styles and schools.

The Primer of Plain Song, by the Rev. T. Helmore, treats of the most ancient species of church music, the old notation of which, and the several "modes" (plagal and authentic), are explained, many musical illustrations being given, both in the obsolete and the present notation, in addition to the large amount of instructive matter comprised in the fifteen chapters of the work. Both the primers just referred to have the advantage of a comprehensive index.

Mr. Curwen, the active and successful promoter of the Tonic-Sol-Fa system, has supplied a concise and clear explanation of the process by which letters are used instead of musical notes, thus simplifying the elements of musical instruction, especially in teaching class-singing. The speedy facility obtained by the Tonic-Sol-Fa classes, as exemplified by many public performances, is proof of the value of the system for popular musical education.

The Primer on Fugue is by Mr. James Higgs, who has condensed a large amount of information in a moderate compass. The author states that his Primer "is addressed to all who hear or play fugues, as well as to students who desire to write them." The several chapters of the work treat of the component parts of a fugue, subject, answer, counter-subject, episode, stretto, order of reply, modulation, pedal, and the construction of a fugue as a whole. Copious musical examples are given in illustration, besides several pianoforte and choral fugues, by Bach and others, put into score. Mr. Higgs has contributed a valuable addition to the musical library.

Another excellent treatise is the Primer of Instrumentation, by Mr. E. Prout, who is specially qualified for the authorship of such a work by his extensive theoretical and practical knowledge of the subject. He treats, copiously and clearly, of all the instruments used in the orchestra, both in their single and associated employment, even as in the complex combinations of Wagner's score. Extracts from the works of this composer and of Brahms, and from those of many of the great masters of the past, are given, an index thereof affording ready reference to them.

Messrs. Novello, Ewer, and Co. may be congratulated on the deserved success of this excellent and inexpensive series, which is still in course of extension.

The Lord Lieutenant, who left Dublin last week for a short sojourn at Knockdrin, near Mullingar, has fixed Jan. 21 for his first Levée of the season.

Rear-Admiral Willes on Wednesday laid the foundation-stone of a new dock at Devonport Dockyard. It is to be 386 ft. in length, thus being the largest dry dock in the world.

The approaching New Year is heralded by the timely publication of Messrs. Kelly and Co.'s "Post-Office London Directory," making now its eighth annual entry into our populous metropolitan world of still increasing magnitude and variety of social conditions. The volume has continually grown in bulk, till at last we have exactly 2500 pages filled by its closely printed catalogue of streets and persons, without reckoning 400 pages of advertisements; and it has been found expedient to use new and smaller type for the "Commercial" portion of the Directory, with the old-faced figures, presenting a neat and perspicuous effect. The topographical area included in this Directory approaches in form that of an irregular rectangle, extending from the western boundaries of Kensington and Chelsea, to the eastern and south-eastern suburbs adjoining Bow, Cubitt Town, Greenwich, and Blackheath, a distance of nine miles and a half; and from Highbury and Holloway in the north, to Kennington, Walworth, and Deptford (inclusive) in South London, which is about six miles. The map given with this volume is folded in such a manner that any part of it can be referred to without unfolding the whole, which was formerly in danger of being torn. It is altogether most complete and convenient for its purpose, and has been made as correct as possible to the present date.

CANADA: "SURPRISE-PARTIES."

The bare mention of a Canadian winter is apt to induce many Englishmen to shrug their shoulders, as they picture to themselves vast tracts of eternal snow and wretched wights afflicted with blue noses and frozen ears, who can barely keep the flame of life alight, in spite of furs and huge log-fires. But, instead of forcing people to hibernate like snakes and bears, a Canadian winter is, of all the changing seasons of the year, the most enjoyable; for the dry, exhilarating air acts on the animal spirits in an inverse ratio to the falling of the mercury.

Roads nowhere less than four feet deep in snow, and the air filled with myriads of flaky crystals—sometimes coming down large and glittering, sailing hither and thither falteringly, their floating career to earth undisturbed by Boreas; but often hurled headlong in their course in one continuous blinding sheet of snow by rude blasts of the North Wind! A long series of such days, with the mercury never above zero, are believed by many Englishmen to constitute a Canadian winter. Now, in justice to the climate of our northern Dominion, it should be thoroughly understood that rarely is there more than one day in the seven a stormy one, that though very cold there is little wind, and that the prevailing aspect of the heavens is a sky unflecked by a single cloud.

There are days when, in addition to the thermometer registering an unpleasant proximity to zero, there are biting winds and blinding snowstorms. But these are few and far between. It is almost an unfailing axiom that when the mercury falls to zero there is neither snow nor wind; and it is this still, translucent state of the atmosphere that makes the winters of Canada, in spite of the intense cold, delightful in the extreme.

Many are the times in the depth of winter, when the roads are not only in perfect sleighing condition, but when the atmosphere is really delicious, with just enough dash of cold in it to raise one's spirits and energies to the highest point,—when the snow has been beaten down so that the horses throw up but little snow-dust, and the sleighs glide along a hard, smooth track, neither abounding in too much snow nor, on the other hand, laying bare here and there patches of mother earth. When the roads have been subjected to the necessary amount of traffic to make them in the above state, and when the weather is propitious, pleasure-sleighs, containing surprise-parties, are to be seen, in all directions, gliding gaily and merrily along the beaten tracks on their way to friends whom they are going to take by storm. In addition, a day is generally chosen when there will be moonlight for their return; and, in the case of farmers, the moon generally lights them away as well as home, for before they start they like to see their cattle and horses comfortably "fixed" for the night.

I know of nothing more enchanting than to be one of a surprise-party, on good roads and in good company, behind a pair of mettled horses, and with the moon casting her white light on the whiter snow. There is a wonderful charm in a moonlight sleigh-ride. The night luminary paints everything not enveloped in the snow with most vivid distinctness. The otherwise execrable zig-zag fences stand out, for once, in pleasing relief with their crystallised fretwork; and how saliently she paints the dark green pines and firs!—those genial giants that retain their dusky verdure when all else is dead. The gallant steeds, too, and the bright-coloured robes and furs in the jaunty sleighs and cutters, make of themselves a pretty picture as their swan-like outlines lit gracefully and noiselessly onwards. The moon lights up some charming objects for the eye to dwell upon, but none more so than the faces of the women and girls who, though ensconced in shawls and buffalo-robés, have the grace to show the more interesting parts of the facial contour; for there is a freshness in Canadian women that, apart from mere beauty, is characteristic. Very charming is the cadence of their voices, and very cheery, too, the chimes from the bells on the sleigh-shafts and the jingle of the small silver ones strung around the belted steeds. If these be spirited brutes the driver has to keep a tight rein, for they enjoy the evening just as much as their masters and mistresses, and, unless they be held in, are apt to break away into a good round gallop, the state of the roads rendering the effect of pulling scarcely perceptible.

On mild moonlight nights hundreds of pleasure-sleighs—one-horse cutters, sleighs-and-pairs, and hero and there a four-in-hand—are to be seen gliding along the well-beaten tracks; some of them out merely for the enjoyment of the drive, the majority, however, with suspicious-looking hampers and baskets protruding from among the buffalo-robés and bear-skins, that suggest longer entertainment than an hour's outing. These sleighs, freighted with healthful, pretty faces and manly forms, such as few but British-sprung communities can produce, convey surprise-parties to many a wealthy citizen and humbler tradesman, and farmer and country-squire. British-sprung communities cling to the old names. Open-handed to all comers, whether friends or simply bowing acquaintances, Canadians, like all colonists, are eminently hospitable, unfettered as they are by old-country conventionalities.

The evenings are generally spent in dancing, which is much indulged in throughout the Dominion, especially in the Lower Province—Canadian women, rich and poor, being very graceful in their movements on the light fantastic toe. The more elderly portion of these surprise-parties pass the time at euchre, in discussing the political aspect of affairs, the prospects of the wheat crop, &c., according to their several proclivities. Euchre is analogous to our whist, which it entirely supersedes, and is a game the Canadians have learnt from their cute friends on the other side of the Lakes and the St. Lawrence: it is played more quickly than whist, each hand comprising only five cards. So general has it become throughout Canada and the States, that when anyone has been cheated, beaten in some bargain, or otherwise got the worst of anything, he is said to be euchred. It often happens that those to whom the surprise-parties are going are themselves on a similar errand elsewhere, in which case the merry sleighers waken up with the jingle of their bells the quietude of some neighbouring habitation.

Although times are generally chosen when the roads are in good condition, there are, of course, in out-of-the-way parts unbroken tracks and snow-drifts to be got through, and then an excitement ensues that does not always end pleasantly, though upsets in the snow are not often serious, and are looked for, except in the cities, as inevitable periodical occurrences. The light compact horses rarely flinch at a snow-drift, but pluckily push their way through, now plunging up to their necks as they breast the white feathery waves, now emerging into a shallower path, snorting out the snow that has gathered about their nostrils, their flanks quivering from their exertions and glistening with the flaky crystals that soon dissolve on their warm glossy skins. If the snow be not too deep, and the tops of the snake-fences on each side of the road be visible, a driver with a steady hand and confidence in his horses will generally take his party through these unbroken paths without a "spill;" but often the snow is too deep, or too crusted, or the fence-tops, by which he steers, completely hidden from view, and then a detour is his only choice.



THE MARQUIS OF LORNE BEING SWORN IN AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.



MAJOR-GENERAL F. S. ROBERTS, V.C., C.B., COMMANDING THE FORCES IN THE KHOORUM PASS.

The victory won in the Peiwar Pass on Monday week by this distinguished officer, in command of the British-Indian forces proceeding through the Khoorum Valley into Afghanistan, gives additional interest to our Engraving of his Portrait. General Roberts, though in the prime of life, has brought the experience of a twenty years' service in the Quartermaster-General's Department, of which he is the actual head, to bear

on his new command. He has also served through many campaigns. At the siege of Delhi he earned the Victoria Cross for personal gallantry in sabring a standard-bearer and capturing his flag. The various operations connected with the relief of Lucknow and its subsequent siege and capture saw him acting as an Assistant Adjutant-General. For this campaign he received the brevet of Major, besides a medal and

three clasps, and was frequently mentioned in despatches. At the Umbeyla Expedition in 1863 he was present, and was again mentioned. He served throughout the Abyssinian War as Quartermaster-General of the Bengal Brigade, and was given a Lieutenant-Colonelcy for his meritorious services. As senior Staff officer, he accompanied the Looshai Expedition of 1872, for which he was rewarded with the Companionship of the Bath.



CAMP OF 59TH REGIMENT AT MOOLTAN—RENDEZVOUS OF THE QUETTA FIELD FORCE.

NOVELS.

Extraordinary would be the best word to choose, if it were necessary to describe by a single epithet the story contained in the three volumes entitled *The Return of the Native*, by Thomas Hardy (Smith, Elder, and Co.); for, from the title to the conclusion, it is assuredly out of the ordinary. The characters are uncommon, the scenery is uncommon, the dialogue is uncommon, the incidents are uncommon, the style is uncommon, the diction is uncommon; and, though the descriptions are uncommonly good, the movement is uncommonly slow, the personages are uncommonly uninteresting, the action is uncommonly poor, the conclusion is uncommonly flat. One scene especially may be mentioned, in which both the power and the weakness of the author are exhibited together and most strikingly. It is a scene of gambling with dice. Two men, on "a stagnant, warm, and misty night," in the open air, with a flat stone, for lack of table, between them, and, with a lantern to give them light, recline upon the ground and "shake their elbows," until one of them has been "cleaned out," having lost a hundred spade guineas, which, by-the-way, were not his own. The loser has just shuffled off into the darkness, and the winner is just shutting the lantern and preparing to take his departure, when from behind a bush rises a "tall crimson form," which advances to the spot lately occupied by the loser of the spade guineas, sits down in the vacant place, and challenges the winner to continue the game. The red figure might pass for Mephistopheles; and the whole situation is worthy of the drama with which that character is most commonly associated. The pair begin to play by the light of the lantern; and, when that is put out by the rush of a death's-head moth, they gather a number of glowworms upon a leaf, and continue the game by the aid of those living lamps. Around the gamblers, from time to time, collect the wild heath-ponies, which gaze upon the spectacle with wondering eyes. The former winner is now the loser: Mephistopheles, as was to be expected, pockets the stakes. The whole scene is very original and very striking, and therein the author shows his peculiar power; but the description is cumbered with an excess of detail, and therein the author shows his peculiar weakness. His story resolves itself, for the most part, into an unconnected collection of studies, minute studies, both of character and of natural objects, with an intermixture of unnecessarily lengthened expositions connected with certain rustic superstitions and rustic customs. The studies are undoubtedly excellent, and, notwithstanding a curiously affected sort of language, are admirably placed before the reader; but, so far as the interest of the narrative is concerned, they have rather a wearying than a stimulating effect. Novel-readers, it may be safely asserted, think more of their own gratification, which depends upon the attractive qualities inherent in the story itself, than of the knowledge and talent exhibited by a writer in the treatment of what is merely subordinate and accessory; and an author who relies more upon the mere fringe of his story than upon his story itself for the exhibition of his powers, runs a risk of obtaining less popularity than is awarded to his inferiors in intellectual gifts and literary composition. People, in fact, will not read novels for the sake of the quaintness and the cleverness displayed in them; there must be some strong scent, whether of romance or of reality, to follow from the opening to the conclusion, and that scent must not be allowed to become so far lost that it can with difficulty be picked up again. The hero of the story is the Mephistopheles above mentioned. He is really a very good man, and is ultimately recompensed according to his deserts. He is a reddeleman; and as it is probable that ninety-nine persons out of a hundred do not know what that means, they would do well to turn to the novel for information. They will find themselves very agreeably enlightened, both on that subject and on many other points, equally curious, concerning the habits, manners, customs, and vocations of residents in out-of-the-way country districts.

A dedication informs us that *For Percival*, by Margaret Vey (Smith, Elder, and Co.), is a "first book;" and, so regarded, it may be pronounced a very creditable performance. It is free from all the most prominent faults characteristic of lady-novelists, or the majority of lady-novelists, at any rate, when they first rush into print with the intention of taking popularity by storm. They, as a general rule, adopt a sensational style, which almost necessitates the introduction of vicious, immoral, and criminal characters; and, from sheer ignorance and inexperience of anything but what is perfectly unobjectionable, and from a vague fear of not displaying a sufficiently intimate acquaintance with wickedness, they sometimes invent personages, actions, and scenes which for prurient, shamelessness, and iniquity, surpass anything that would enter into the heart of a man to conceive, or that, if it did, he would dare to set down upon paper for the supposed gratification of the public. They, moreover, as a general rule, express their own and their creatures' sentiments and remarks in a sort of English which would hardly escape the censure of a strict grammarian. In the present instance no such characteristics are discernible; there is nothing sensational in the style, nothing amiss with the grammar. One might even go so far as to say that the style is a little tame, and that the language, though correct enough, is not handled with any remarkable effect, expressive, impressive, melodious, or other, whether in description, or in narrative, or in dialogue. Howbeit, the whole expanse of story is bespangled here and there throughout its length and breadth with sparkling little pieces of smartness, vivacity, archness, irony, and downright humour; there are many pretty situations and bits of life-like bubble between gallant youth and lady gay, such as the softer is better calculated than the harder sex to appreciate; and, above all, the tone, though somewhat sordid, if there be anything sordid in a pervading spirit of Mammon, is in other respects unexceptionable. The book, indeed, might be placed by a judicious schoolmistress quite safely in the hands of schoolgirls and for schoolgirls, one would say, rather than for grown men and women, the story is calculated to have most attraction;—if only schoolgirls had leisure enough: for it must be acknowledged that the novel requires a great deal of reading. It is, indeed, overladen with unnecessary characters, unnecessary descriptions, unnecessary observations, unnecessary dialogue. Nor is that which is unnecessary enlivened or justified in every instance, or in many instances by that which is entertaining or noteworthy. The plain truth is that the whole story might have been compressed with advantage into about a third of the space which it has been made by expansion to occupy. The main purpose of the tale appears to be the glorification of a high-minded young man, whose Christian name is Percival, and whose recommendations seem to consist chiefly in an olive complexion, well-cut features and clothes, hands either white or olive (according to the author's fancy or memory at a particular moment), and a certain nobility of moral character, exhibited principally in the form of a strict regard for truth and a sublime contempt for anything like deception. The worst of such superior beings is that they sometimes overdo it to such an extent that they are liable to be mistaken for prigs. And to that category many readers are likely to consign the immaculate Percival. However, he is vastly

admired, though rather for his physical than for his moral qualities, in the story; and the alacrity with which pretty girl after pretty girl assumes her brightest smiles "for Percival" reminds one of the famous scene in which the devoted Highlanders, in one of Scott's novels, step forward to sacrifice themselves "for Hector." Percival, be it noted, has a brother, so like him and yet so unlike, that in a photograph or under certain conditions of light and shade it is difficult to distinguish one from the other. Hence the cardinal incident of the story, which ends with the beatification of Percival at a sacrifice greater, as many a reader will think, than was either necessary or becoming. It must be confessed, however, that any other solution of the difficult situation attained towards the close of affairs would probably have been less effective and less pathetic, though it might have met with more ready acquiescence.

THE MAGAZINES.

The most noticeable contribution to a scarcely average number of the *Cornhill* is another of Mr. Henry James's graceful and piquant social sketches. The point, as formerly, is the contrast, not harsh or unfriendly, between American and European manners and feelings, the parties on this occasion being two young Englishmen of rank on their travels in the Western States and the female members of an American family of position. The superior refinement of the latter in all essential respects is brought out with delicate skill and with no trace of exaggerated national feeling. Mr. Leslie Stephen's essay on Landor is a fair exposition of the causes which prevent average readers from enjoying this exceptional writer, all the more entitled to attention as this distaste is evidently shared by Mr. Stephen himself. His criticism is perfectly just as far as it goes; but, while evincing remarkable keenness of perception in the detection of Landor's weak points, indicates a no less marked incapacity to appreciate his strong ones, except the massiveness and dignity of his style. Nothing is said of the serene poetical wisdom which characterises him as a writer above almost all his contemporaries, and contrasts so strangely with his total want of self-control in actual life. "For Percival" attains a satisfactory conclusion. The only other paper of mark is an account of the three Burmese heroines, who form the standard theme of the national drama, a favourite amusement of the people. This pleasant sketch is from the pen of Mr. St. Barbe, of the Indian Civil Service.

Macmillan, though varied, is not very interesting. The most remarkable paper is Mr. E. B. Tylor's curious notice of the existence of backgammon among the Aztecs, another touch of nature making the world kin. "Haworth's" and "A Doubting Heart" both good, and there is a fine ring in the veteran Professor Blackie's lines descriptive of "My Walk." Mr. Crosskey's defence of the Birmingham "caucus" system is spirited enough, but takes no account of the inevitable degeneracy of all political associations in the second generation. Mr. Laing-Mason's sketch of our Indian army is instructive but dry; and Mr. Clarke's notes on Afghanistan are less interesting than we should have expected.

Blackwood has two contributions in its best manner in totally different styles. One, "The Cottage by the River," is an admirable specimen of the melodramatic tale—so telling, though so obviously artificial—which has so repeatedly given a distinctive character to the pages of this periodical. "The Fruit and Vintage of Herefordshire" is an equally excellent specimen of *Blackwood's* cheerful and withal scholarly manner, mellow and genial as the subject. The first of a series of papers on Journalism evinces good sense and good information. "French Home Life" concludes the present instalment with a striking picture of the impending extinction of the country gentry as a political power, due, the friendly writer frankly tells them, to their obstinate pride and folly.

Fraser again puts forth a poor number, where the good articles are mostly too heavy. "Public Works in Asiatic Turkey," and "Solvency and Revenues of India," however, though open to this charge, are well worth study. Among lighter papers we have chiefly to note the concluding ones of the two interesting series, "Holidays in Eastern France" and "Among the Burmese," and another of Vernon Lee's ever acceptable musical essays, the subject this time being the eccentric novelist and musician Hoffmann.

The most important contributions to the *Contemporary Review* are the communications from Germany and Russia, treating of "contemporary life and thought" in those countries. The picture of the political confusion in Germany is especially interesting, and is illustrated by a table showing the comparative loss and gain of Parliamentary parties within the last eight years. Mr. Shaw Lefevre writes an interesting history of the recovery of Epping Forest from encroachments, which could hardly have occurred in any country but this. Professor Monier Williams sketches the tenets of the various sects into which the Hindu worshippers of Vishnu are divided; and Mr. Sayce insists on the claims of the Phoenicians, rather than the Egyptians, to be regarded as the founders of Greek civilisation. In spite of Mr. Gladstone and Dr. Littledale, the Abbé Martin is still as unable as Protestants in general to discover "What hinders Ritualists from becoming Roman Catholics."

By far the most important contribution to the *Nineteenth Century* is Sir Henry Rawlinson's temperate and able statement of the causes which have produced the "Afghan Crisis." Another essay on Indian affairs, from the pen of Sir Erskine Perry, is more remarkable for good sense than novelty. Sir Erskine's warnings against hasty and premature interference with Indian ideas and customs, are entitled to much weight. In "Dogma, Reason, and Morality," the author of "The New Republic" to all appearance identifies himself with Roman Catholicism, although it would be hazardous to affirm that he may not have left himself a loophole yet. The matter, however, is hardly worth investigating. Mr. Newenham Hoare draws a flattering sketch of the loftiness and spirituality of ancient Egyptian religion, with perhaps too implicit a reliance on the accuracy of the versions of hieroglyphical texts. Mr. Ralston brings the various forms assumed by the legend of "Beauty and the Beast" into one view; Mr. Ruskin concludes his "Colours of Pre-Raphaelitism" with a touching allusion to failing strength even more impressive than his usual eloquence; and Sir H. Tyler records in incisive language the hasty but probably not incorrect verdict of a practical man on South Africa, "physically, politically, and commercially a country of peculiarities and anomalies." Another contribution of high interest is Mr. Sclater's exposition of some of the as yet unsolved difficulties attaching to the theory of the formation of species by derivation and modification, to which he nevertheless continues to adhere.

The *Fortnightly Review* is less interesting than usual, although M. de Laveleye's review of Dr. Busch's reminiscences of Prince Bismarck will, no doubt, find many readers. The topic, however, is one on which every intelligent reader is as well qualified to form a judgment as M. de Laveleye; in fact,

Prince Bismarck's character is so distinctly inscribed on the page of history that no collection of personal traits, however interesting in themselves, can do much to deepen the impression already current. Lord Carnarvon's address on Imperial administration is amiable and high-minded, rather than suggestive; and a reply to Mr. Hyndman's impeachment of Indian financial management, though containing valuable statistics, bears too much of a semi-official character. The only other paper of much interest is Mr. Wheeler's narrative of the late Russian campaign in Asia. The astounding failures of the earlier part, and the no less astonishing success of the latter, are ascribed solely to merits and demerits of the commanders who respectively directed the operations.

A brilliant campaign also forms the theme of the most interesting contribution to the *Atlantic Monthly*, where Major Crowninshield describes the operations by which General Sheridan expelled the Confederate troops from the Shenandoah Valley in the autumn of 1864. The number is, as usual, full of variety, as is *Scribner's Monthly*, where by far the most remarkable article treats of the singular prehistoric dwellings, excavated in the cliffs, recently discovered in the State of Colorado. The analogy to the Edomite remains at Petre is striking. It is remarkable that the dead appear to have been burned, instead of buried, as usual upon the American continent. "An Irish Heart" is a pretty story, and "Undergraduate Life at Oxford" is suggestive to English as well as American readers.

Belgravia and *Temple Bar* are particularly good this month. The latter loses an excellent serial by the conclusion of "The First Violin," the former gains what promises to prove one of equal mark in Mr. Francillon's new novel "One by One." The miscellaneous papers are excellent in both, especially "An Imperial Pardon," "Two Japanese Stories," and "Theatrical Makeshakes," in *Belgravia*. The most remarkable contribution to the *Gentleman's Magazine* is a series of unpublished letters containing some new particulars relating to Dr. Johnson. The *University Magazine* has an excellent portrait and fair biography of Mr. W. Spottiswoode, a good paper on Margaret Fuller, and an imaginative prose sketch entitled "Laclia."

We have also received *Good Words*, London Society, The Month, The Churchman's Monthly. Part 2 of Haydn's Dictionary of Dates, Part 2 of Josephus, Part 2 of Domestic Medicine, Part 1 of Cassell's History of India, Part 1 of International Portrait Gallery, Part 2 of Haydn's Bible Dictionary, Masonic Magazine, Pantiles Papers, Psychological Review, Popular Science Review, St. Nicholas, Part 9 of Our Native Land, No. 36 of Men of Mark, Part 7 of The Cheveley Novels—Samuel Weir, St. James's Magazine, Magazine of Art, Geographical Magazine, Lippincott's Magazine, St. Nicholas, Charing-cross Magazine, Mirth, Science for All, Science Gossip, Familiar Wild Flowers, Cassell's Family Magazine, Poet's Magazine, Church Sunday-School Magazine, Mission Life, Daisy, Golden Childhood, Christian Age, Myra's Journal and Children's Dress, Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine, Sylvia's Home Journal, Milliner and Dressmaker; and monthly parts of All the Year Round, Once a Week, Weekly Welcome, Golden Hours, Day of Rest, Sunday at Home, Sunday Magazine, Leisure Hour, Garden, Gardeners' Chronicle, and Gardener's Magazine.

POCKET-BOOKS AND DIARIES.

The middle of December has brought its customary parcels of serviceable Pocket-Books, containing the next year's calendar of days, and of decorated cards for the prettiest little gifts of friendship or family affection at this season of anniversary remembrance. Messrs. Thomas De la Rue and Co. have not failed to produce the most convenient and beautiful portable Diaries for the ordinary use of ladies and gentlemen, in a variety of suitable forms; discarding henceforth the photograph of an astronomical subject which they were wont to put in as a frontispiece, but in all other points maintaining the known style of these exquisite pocket-books, whether bound in rich crimson velvet, with gilt clasps, in soft morocco leather of a delicate stone-colour, in substantial russia, for masculine service, or in the tablet shape, which is most handy for pencil-writing at any moment. A new contrivance, adapted for the waistcoat pocket, is that neatly condensed into a case only one inch wide, and three inches long, which Messrs. De la Rue call "Fingers;" it gives the complete almanack, but without space for memoranda.—The Desk Diary, edited by Mr. W. Godward, contains a large amount of statistical information.—Messrs. Letts, Son, and Co., of New-cross and King William-street, have as usual provided for all commercial men, for all lawyers, doctors, clergymen, private householders, and other classes, the most serviceable forms of diary and memorandum book, adapted to their respective needs of daily business.—The "Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket-Book" for 1879 (published by George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street), is a comprehensive book of reference for the use of Brethren of the Mystic Tie.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S DAY CARDS.

The Christmas Cards and those for New-Year's Day presentation, manufactured by Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co., of London, Belfast, and Philadelphia, have much artistic beauty of design. Those representing floral subjects are very true to nature, and the arrangements of colour, frequently relieved by a dark chocolate background, are extremely pleasing. Others display the figures of children, in quaint, old-fashioned costumes, drawn by Miss Kate Greenaway; of beasts and birds enacting some of Aesop's Fables, or behaving naturally in the "Farm and Forest;" with illustrations of "Past and Present," or "The Good Old Times," and many such pleasant themes. "Window Pictures" is a set of four landscape scenes, viewed from a window of stained glass panes, with different modifications of the prevailing hue. Mr. H. Rothe, of King-street, Covent-garden, as well as Messrs. T. De la Rue and Co., and other fancy stationers, must be commended for the ingenuity and good taste shown in productions of this kind. Mr. H. Rothe's "Four Seasons," mostly in sombre colours but relieved with gold, present graceful figures of a child with one or two elder persons, of rather classical design. De la Rue's Cards, which are executed in chromolithography from original water-colour drawings, and upon richly-enamelled cardboard, with ornamentation of gold and colour, set before us an immense variety of subjects, treated in the best style of elegant grotesque delineation. Mr. Arthur Ackermann, of Regent-street, publishes a series of beautiful cards for Christmas and the New Year. There are six charming designs by Miss E. G. Thomson, and some in illuminated relief, Mr. Ackermann's own production; the others are manufactured by Messrs. Prang and Co., of Boston, United States.—Mr. Harding, of Piccadilly, supplies a very diverting series of antiquated costume figures, not coloured, examples of the fashions of attire "when George the Third was King."—A good assortment of Christmas and New-Year greeting cards is published by Mr. B. Sulman, of Milton-street, City.

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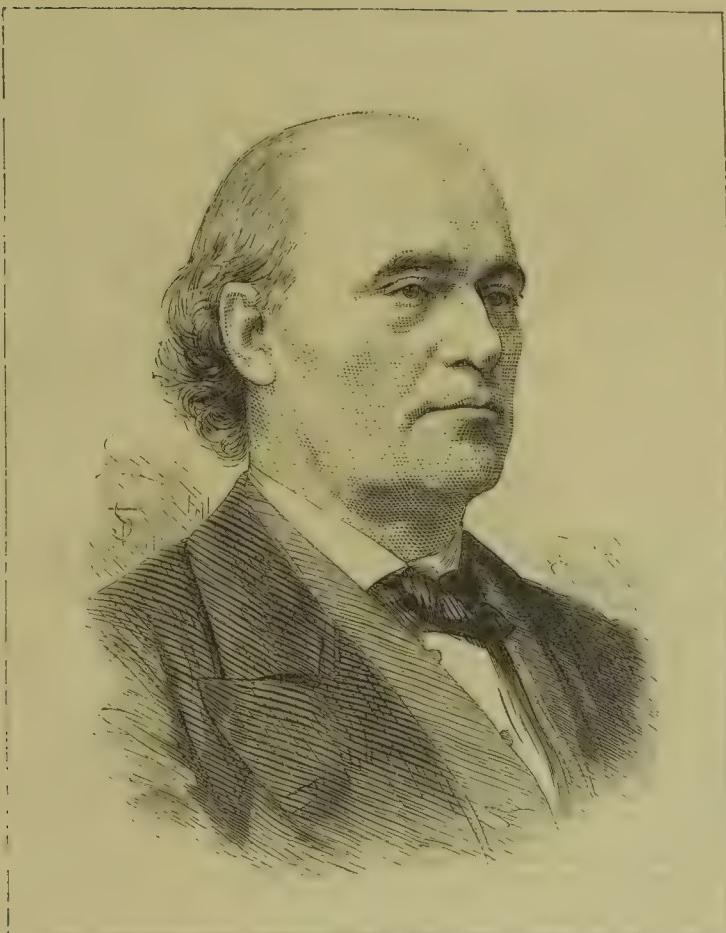
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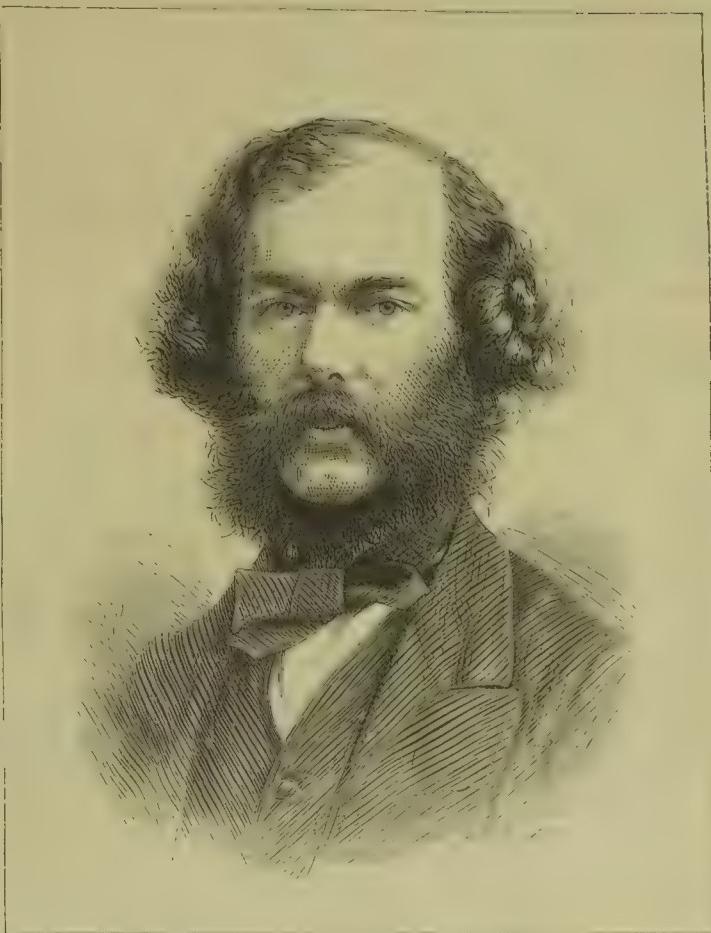
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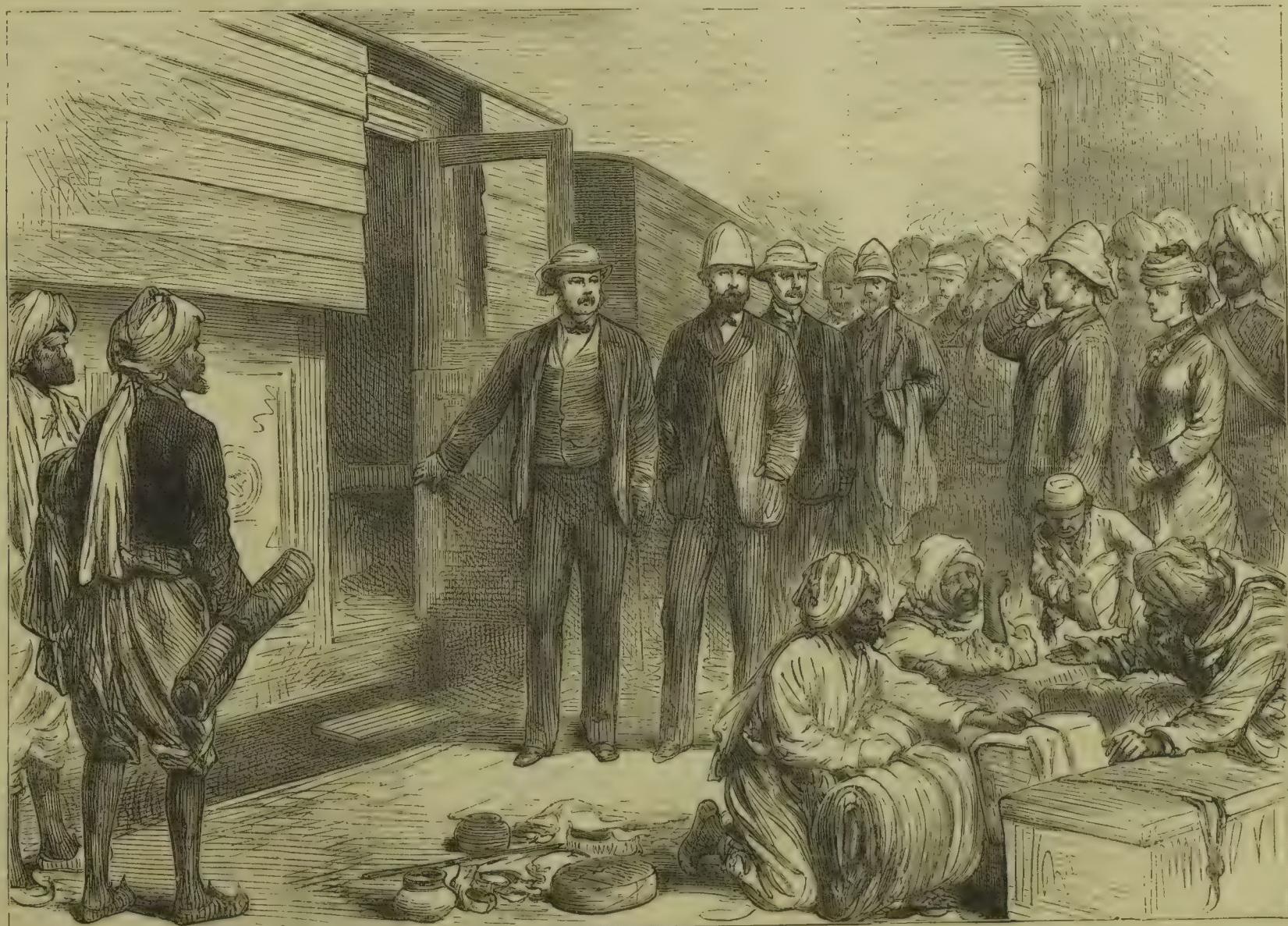
have put on. We remember the first night of "Still Waters Run Deep," a dramatic piece of considerable force, adapted by Mr. Tom Taylor from the French story of "Le Beau-Fils," and in which "John Mildmay" was performed by this most intelligent actor with a truthful conception of the individual character as well as of the social type. It was the well-bred, self-controlled, upright, but cautious man of the world, an honest diplomatist of private life, checkmating roguery without the use of equivocal means. There were several other congenial parts which Mr. Alfred Wigan seemed to identify with his own personality, by the perfect consistency and, so to speak, the sincerity of his representation; these were characters of sterling worth and profitable examples of

conduct. His more recent appearances in connection with the St. James's, the Queen's, and the Gaiety Theatres were mentioned in our obituary notice.

The Portrait is from a photograph by the London Stereoscopic Company.

THE LATE MR. G. H. LEWES.

This accomplished man of letters, whose death was announced last week, was in the sixty-second year of his age. He had shown his versatile genius in many different branches of authorship, as a novelist, dramatic poet, student of mental philosophy, biographer, critic, and physiologist, besides holding

THE AFGHAN WAR: THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, SIR FREDERICK HAINES, LEAVING UMBALLA FOR THE FRONT.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

the editorship of the *Leader* and the *Fortnightly Review*. To him, perhaps, more aptly than to any other contemporary writer, may be applied the epitaph which is inscribed on Goldsmith's monument in Westminster Abbey—"Nullum feré scribendi genus non tetigit; nullum tetigit quod non ornavit." Yet we are inclined to think none of his works first-rate of their kind; and he has scarcely added to the stock of original and pregnant ideas, or given a decided impulse to the progress of thought. As a master of literary execution, and a discriminating scholar of the higher sciences, his performances have received their due share of public esteem. His future reputation will probably be akin to that of a leading French "Encyclopédiste;" or we might call him a masculine Harriet Martineau, free from her peculiar foibles of moral judgment.

The Portrait of Mr. Lewes is from a photograph by Messrs. Elliott and Fry, of Baker-street.

ART.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. As usual, the Winter Exhibition of this society consists of a larger proportion of more or less finished drawings than of "sketches and studies." Like the summer gathering, it manifests a steady growth in importance concurrently with the progress of its younger members and the accession of new ones. The institute may well be proud of the fact that two of its young members, Mr. Herkomer and Mr. C. Green, carried off prizes at the Paris Exhibition (the former one of the two grand *prix d'honneur* awarded to the British school), whilst only one medal was won by a member of the old society—Sir John Gilbert. The present display offers more novel interest than that in Pall-mall East; and nowhere, perhaps, can the tendencies of our younger school be better studied. The Institute owes much to the circumstance that several artists in its ranks bring to water colours a ripened experience gained in the wider range of oil painting. Larger modes of treatment prevail than in the Old Society, where the example of Frederick Walker and Alfred Hunt, and possibly the praise of extreme finish by Mr. Ruskin, have too much influence.

There was a time when Mr. Herkomer himself followed in the wake of the lamented young chief of the Old Society, but now he has at one bound broken through the bonds of all precedent, thrown off the harness of his own routine, and even passed the limits which might seem to have been fixed by the nature of water colour itself. We do not hesitate to say that the lifesize bust portrait here of a gentleman holding a skull, called "A Phrenologist" (273), though described as "unfinished," and obviously so as regards the hand and some minor details, is, for truth of modelling, power of colour, and vigour of execution, one of the most masterly drawings of our day. And little less remarkable are the head "studies" on the same scale of an elderly gentleman (145) and a lady (153). It will be interesting to artists and amateurs at a distance to know that (unlike Mr. Herkomer's former practice) in the painting of these heads—which rival the force of oil, while they retain the aerial brilliancy of fresco—"body-colour" is very sparingly if at all employed. The artist also sends a very grandiose design in illustration of the *Niebelungen Lied*—"Siegfried Capturing the Bear" (236), in which the brawny legendary hero is but an accessory to the mighty boles of giant oaks and pines in a primeval forest. We are hardly satisfied, however, that the conventional treatment is fully justified by or fully subserves the imaginative impressiveness sought to be conveyed; but of the elevated style and technical strength of the work there cannot be a doubt. Mr. E. G. Gregory approaches very near to Mr. Herkomer in two striking studies of male heads, about half lifesize (228 and 245). They are admirably drawn, thoroughly understood as regards light and shade, and extremely spirited in handling. A study of a lady seated at a casement (320), by the same artist, is almost illusive in lighting and beautiful in colour. Mr. W. Small, another vigorous painter, who has also discarded body-colour, is well represented in a drawing of a pretty but thoroughly rustic lass spreading clothes to dry (51), a replica of his oil picture in the Dudley Gallery, and which, if the foliage in the upper part equalled the lower half of the drawing, would leave nothing to desire. Mr. Walter Wilson sends a large drawing (104) of a scene in a picturesque seaside village with several figures, foremost among which is a sturdy fisher-girl casting looks that are "witching" and "baiting-hooks" (as we are informed by a motto which serves as title, though she is hardly a syren in face) on a young fellow who is hoisting to her shoulder a basket of mussels. This is broad in effect, and otherwise promising; but the warm tone of the sky so pervades the figures that they acquire a certain transparent insubstantiality. More solid, while equally characteristic and honest, is Mr. Clausen's "Fisher Folk in Church, Island of Urk, Zuydersee" (65). Of the Dutch master Israels there is a small but excellent example, though the subject is of the tritest—"Grace Before Meat" (307)—a fisherman and his aged mother seated at their lowly board in reverential attitude before the steaming bowl of potatoes that constitutes their humble midday meal. The rude and fumbling execution and sombre tone seem at once to give more pointed intensity to the exactly-hit expressions of pious thankfulness, and to deepen the pathos of the artist's constant theme of contentment with a hard lot. Yet we confess we begin to tire of this eternal harping upon mournful minor chords—this chosen métier of trading in sorrow. If no glimmer of hope or joy ever reaches those poor Scheveningen people, it is quite certain that the painter's funeral tones are artificial. In this very hut, with the sunlight visible through the window over the door, there should be much more light reflected and refracted about the room.

In landscape also this exhibition is rich in broad, free, manly work; and, curiously enough, the influence of David Cox is very perceptible here, though scarcely discernible in the society of which he was a member. Mr. Collier's bold and brilliant coast-scene, on "A June Morning" (71), in which one almost feels the bracing sea-breeze; the "Waste Land" (257), by Mr. Wimperis, where the expression or the generalizing influence of wind by the oblique parallelism of the strokes is only too Cox-like; Mr. Syer's really noble drawing of "Anstey Cove, Torquay" (266), with its tumbling waves, and breeze on shore—quite free, by-the-way, from the conventionality of the middle period of the artist's practice in oil; Mr. Orrock's views on the Lincolnshire coast (see especially No. 187), in which, with steadily increasing success, he sets himself the difficult task of rendering the delicate gradations of receding distance on a level country under grey skies; Mr. Beavis's studies near Harwich (184) and "Hastings" (159), with their careful draughtsmanship and nicely discriminated tints and aerial perspective; Mr. Harry Johnson's "Skirts of Dartmoor" (146), showing the superiority of "study" direct "from nature" to studio elaboration; Mr. E. Hayes's drawings of a brig in a fresh breeze off "Newhaven Harbour" (293); and, still better, the "Dutch Boats becalmed off Amsterdam" (223), with its beautiful pale-golden, yet pearly, effect—like a cool Cuy; and several architectural sketches by the veteran Louis Hagle—all whose more or less mastery of that last lesson in art—

what to leave out. There is not so much a suppression as a subordination of detail to general effect, accompanied by greater surface elaboration, in the views of "Leith Hill from Reigate Common" (232) and "Ben Venue from the Trossachs" (240), by Mr. Leitch, specially noteworthy for a sense of the requirements of pictorial composition that is now rare in our school; and in several refined views on the downs and south coast, by Mr. H. G. Hine, which, as likewise in his congenial subject of "Moonlight" (60) on a quiet night, evince true sympathy with nature in her moods of tranquil sentiment. Other landscapes which, if not remarkable for breadth, are free from pettiness, and besides good examples of their respective painters, are Mr. Mogford's "Rainbow, Westmoreland" (88), Mr. E. Hargitt's "Arran Hills, from Cantyre" (111), Mr. Philp's "Off the Land's-End" (283), and "The Barley Mow" (274), by Mr. E. G. Warren—a considerable advance upon some recent works. Nor must we omit to mention "Heliopolis, as it was and as it is" (175), by Mr. William Simpson, the prince of cosmopolitan sketchers, who is now far on his way to the Afghanistan highlands as Special Pictorial Correspondent for this Journal; the series of sketches on the coast and inland by Mr. Harry Hine, a new member, which are executed in a similar key of quiet colouring to that of his father; and the studies of Elizabethan halls and manors, by Mr. J. Fulleylove (another new member), of which the best is the charming view of the court of "Tabley Old Hall" (204), with its gay parterres of flowers.

Returning to the figure works, we have to welcome, as a third new member, the distinguished Academician, Mr. P. F. Poole, who makes his débüt with "The Cave of Mammon, from Spenser's 'Faerie Queene'" (248)—a water-colour replica of his oil picture exhibited at Burlington House a few years back, and reproducing much of its weird imaginativeness. A recent accession of value and promise is Mr. E. Bale, whose drawing of a scene in the environs of Rome, with children presenting "An Easter Offering" (154), in the shape of a bunch of daisies, to an aged priest, is delightfully naïve and sweet in colour and feeling. Not less meritorious is the single figure (261) of a pretty damsels in white satin petticoat and creamy-rose silk *sague* of the last century absorbed in an old letter. And Mr. Bale is not behindhand in dealing with character-witness, "A Woman of Amalfi" (267), an Oriental type of face which seems to recall the mediæval connection of the now half-submerged city with the East. There is always a certain unvulgar distinction in all that Mr. J. D. Linton does, although we may have to complain of black over-wrought shadows, as in this study of a young lady in white, relieved (like Mr. Bale's figure) against a whitish wall. We find more of the painter's characteristic latent richness of colouring in the study (314) for a picture of the magnates of a beleaguered town dispatching a mounted messenger and herald with a flag of truce. Unlike several of his brother members, Mr. C. Green continues to finish his drawings with the utmost precision and minuteness; indeed, under the sustained and exhausting labour of mechanical stippling so minute, the wonder is the artist's invention is not chilled, that he manages so well to co-ordinate character, colour, light and shade, and other essentials of a good picture. Of several small drawings here the most important is that of a lady and gentleman seated "Tête-à-Tête" (21), attired in the astounding fashion of the Regency. Similar in mode of execution, but with less perception of atmospheric influence (the faces being uniformly rather too yellow), is a cleverly composed drawing with many figures (197) by Mr. Townley Green, representing a company of seventeenth-century actors performing on a stage improvised in an inn-yard, with the audience below and in the surrounding galleries.

Having already exceeded our limits, we must be content to simply commend to the visitor the contributions of Messrs. E. M. Ward, H. B. Roberts, G. G. Kilburne, J. Absolon, J. Aumonier, W. L. Thomas, C. Werner, W. M. May, J. and E. H. Fahey, J. Hardy, W. Wild, and J. Tenniel, Miss Mary E. Gow, and Mrs. Duffield. But even these names do not represent all that remains of interest in an exhibition much above the average of former years.

CONTINENTAL GALLERY.

At this gallery, in the Haymarket, a "Winter Exhibition" is being held, which comprises examples of Clays, Munthe, Passini, Braith, Vibert, Trayer, Duverger, Bouguereau, Israels, Madrazo, Gussow, Roybet, Boldini, Gilardi, and the deceased masters Troyon, Daubigny, and Diaz. But, besides these painters (with whom the public has made acquaintance at the French and other galleries), two other artists of extraordinary power are represented who are unknown, or but little known, in London. One of these is M. Charlemont, a young French painter, who was medallé for his first work exhibited in the Salon last year. His picture here represents a negro guarding the gate of a harem, and the characterisation of the ebony visage, the treatment of the white drapery, and the elaboration of the weapons and other details surpass, in everything but colour, the famous Moorish executioner of Henri Regnault. The other is the Spanish painter, Domingo, who in three pictures directly challenges Meissonier on his own ground as regards choice of subject, and scale; and, although the colouring is less rich, although he is not free from the Spanish tendency to blackness, he is equally searching and subtle, whilst the *brio* of the handling is even greater.

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The specialty of last week was the performance of "Oberon" on Saturday, after an interval of eight years.

Weber's final stage work, composed for Covent-Garden Theatre, and produced there in 1826, has received comparatively few performances, notwithstanding the charm and imaginative beauty of the music, and the poetic grace of the libretto supplied by Mr. Planché (the subject taken from Wieland's poem). In its original shape, it was rather a drama with music than an opera according to the proper significance of the term, the company engaged at the theatre at the time when Mr. Charles Kemble gave Weber the commission for the work having comprised but few vocalists, the chief having been Miss Paton, who represented Reiza, Mr. Braham, who was the Sir Huon, and Madame Vestris the Fatima. When the work was revived at her Majesty's Theatre in an Italian version (in 1860), the dramatic portion was revised by Mr. Planché, who has himself explained the necessity for excising a quantity of "dialogue written for the purpose of making parts for actors who could not sing, and supplying the deficiencies of singers who could not act." Recitatives were also added by Sir (then Mr.) Julius Benedict (Weber's pupil), who likewise introduced pieces from the composer's "Euryanthe," in order to strengthen the musical interest. The performances of "Oberon" in the year just named, and subsequently, included the special feature of the fine declamatory singing of Madame Titien as Reiza, and, in the earlier instances, of Madame Alboni as Fatima, this lady having been afterwards efficiently replaced by Madame Trebelli. In spite, however,

of the merits of the music and the performance, the opera was not often given, and, as already said, had been unheard for some years until Saturday last.

In the performance now commented on, the character of Reiza was filled by Madame Pappenheim, who sang with great effect in several instances, particularly in the great scena, "Ocean, thou mighty monster," in which the singer produced a special impression. In other instances, too, her declamation was highly meritorious, among them having been the duet with Sir Huon, in the second act (taken from "Euryanthe"). The music of Fatima was again assigned to Madame Trebelli, who, as on former occasions, sang with great charm of voice and style; both her songs—"A lonely Arab maid," and "Oh, Araby, dear Araby"—having been encored. Miss Purdy and Mdlle. Bauermeister were, respectively, efficient representatives of Puck and the Mermaid—the song of the latter was taken much too slowly. Signor Gillandi, as Sir Huon, sang under the disadvantage of a cold, which somewhat interfered with his delivery of the scena, "Oh! 'tis a glorious sight," in which, nevertheless, he produced a favourable impression, and was much applauded. As Oberon, Signor Carrion sang with care, but was somewhat over-weighted with the scena in the third act (originally written for Sir Huon, but replaced by the other tenor scena expressly composed for Braham). Other parts were filled by Signor Mendioroz (Sherasmin), Signor Mancini (the Caliph), and Signor Roveri (Babekan). Signor Li Calsi conducted, as usual. "Oberon" was announced again for last Thursday evening and next Wednesday morning; the season terminating on the following Saturday evening.

The week's performances of English opera announced by Mr. S. Hayes began at Covent-Garden Theatre on Saturday last, the pieces given having been "Maritana" (the second and third acts) and "The Waterman." Madame Cave-Ashton was the principal lady vocalist in each, Mr. Sims Reeves having appeared as Tom Tug in the last-named piece. Each of his three songs was received with enthusiastic applause by a demonstrative audience. Out of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Frederick Gye, the theatre was closed on Monday, and for the following evening "The Beggars' Opera" was announced, with Mr. Reeves as Captain Macheath.

The first concert given by the South London Choral Association at St. James's Hall, yesterday (Friday) week, displayed the excellent singing of the choir to great advantage, especially in Ambroise Thomas's characteristic chorus, "The Tyrol," Wilby's fine old madrigal, "Sweet honey-sucking bees," and Knyvett's glee, "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower," as rewritten by Sir R. P. Stewart; other pieces having been given with effect by the choristers. Vocal solos, mostly familiar to the public, were contributed by Miss Mary Davies, Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Maybrick, and Mr. Brinley Richards played a brilliant pianoforte piece with great success. Mr. L. C. Venables conducted ably.

The benefit and farewell performance of Madame Rose Hersee, previous to her departure for Australia, took place on Saturday last at the Alexandra Palace in "La Sonnambula."

The Saturday evening concerts at St. James's Hall are continuing their successful career, last week's programme having been of the same popular and varied kind as on the preceding occasions. Madame Montigny-Lemaury contributed some brilliant pianoforte solos, and Mr. Reynolds played some effective pieces on the cornet.

Mr. John Boosey's London Ballad Concerts are maintaining their long-established reputation for the attractive and efficient nature of the performances.

The third concert of the eighth season of the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society took place on Thursday evening, when the performance consisted of Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" ("Lobgesang") and Rossini's "Stabat Mater."

Favourable accounts are received of Miss Helen Hopekirk, a young lady of Edinburgh, who has just finished a two-years' course at the Leipzig Conservatorium of Music, and has been very successful in one of the Gewandhaus Concerts, where she played Chopin's Concerto in F minor, and the Larghetto from Henselt's concerto. She was recalled after each piece. Miss Hopekirk studied under Mr. Liechtenstein, of Edinburgh.

THEATRES.

On Monday the tragedy of "Hamlet" was performed at Drury Lane to give Mr. Bandmann an opportunity of appearing as the melancholy Prince. A numerous audience assembled, in recognition of his merits as an actor. Many German friends were present, as well as many admirers of the actor's talents, and the reception accorded to him throughout was satisfactory. He was frequently—rather too frequently—called before the curtain, and other demonstrations, usual on exceptional occasions, were liberally accorded. Mr. Bandmann has much improved since we last saw him in the character, and now pronounces English with considerable facility. Much of his previous violent action has been moderated, and the more subtle passages of the dialogue are given with a regard to precision which is a great improvement. Miss Wallis played Ophelia with considerable elegance, and distinguished herself especially in the fourth act, indicating the mental disturbance of the poor victim of the destiny provoked by the guilt of others, with artistic skill and much truth to nature. The general cast was not a great one; but sufficient merit was secured to render the performance safe throughout. The applause at its conclusion was demonstrative.

At the Vaudeville Mr. D. Mackay, acting manager and treasurer, took his benefit this morning, Mr. Byron's comedy of "Our Boys" being the attraction.

Mr. Arthur Sketchley gives his last reading of "Mrs. Brown," forming a portion of Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's entertainment at St. George's Hall, this (Saturday) afternoon. A "Musical Fairytale," entitled "Enchantment," written by Arthur Law, will be produced at the Gallery next Monday evening. "A Tremendous Mystery" retains its place in the programme, and Mr. Corney Grain has a musical sketch in preparation for the Christmas holidays.

Mr. J. D. Allcroft, M.P., has promised £500 towards establishing a free library at Worcester.

Last month fifty-five vessels left the Liverpool port for foreign parts, having on board 3888 passengers. Of these 2078 were English, 32 Scotch, 353 Irish, 1191 foreigners, and 234 whose nationalities were not known. Eight ships went to British North America, conveying 386 emigrants.

There was a perceptible increase in the quantity of fresh meat landed at Liverpool last week when compared with recent periods, while the arrivals of live stock showed a considerable decrease. All the steamers conveying fresh meat came from New York, bringing 5415 quarters of beef, 1575 carcasses of mutton, and 190 dead pigs. Ten barrels of turkeys also came from Canada. Four steamers arrived with live stock, the total being 617 cattle, 1009 sheep, and 30 pigs.

ART-BOOKS.

The Christmas publishing season brings forth, as usual, its new works on art and illustrated books. It is expedient to clear up arrears by reviewing some works of this class which have remained unnoticed on our table. Among those that have been longest on hand is *A Brief History of the Painters of All Schools*. By Louis Viardot and Other Writers. Illustrated (Sampson Low, Marston, and Co.). This "brief" history, forms a portly octavo volume of 467 pages of small type. The illustrations, engraved on wood, between forty and fifty in number, are generally well selected and well executed. They are for the most part derived from M. Charles Blanc's "Histoire des Peintres de toutes les Ecoles," but that does not militate against their usefulness; we could only have wished to have had more of them. The bulk of the work—the "Introductions to the Foreign Schools," and the criticisms on the works of the great masters—is from the rather high-flown but not indiscriminate text of M. Louis Viardot in "*Les Merveilles de la Peinture*." But as this portion of the present volume had already been published in England in divisions comprising the great schools, it need not be reviewed anew. Additional biographical details relating to the old masters are, however, supplied, together with short memoirs of many minor artists not mentioned by M. Viardot. There is also a section on the English School, and some information on the American painters from Tuckerman's "Book of the Artists." A work of the kind under notice, containing a compendious history of painting from its infancy in pre-historic and classic times down to the present day, with competent criticism of the leading schools and masters, has long been needed by the general reader; and that want is fairly supplied in this brief history, the editor and compiler of which has evidently read up for his part of the performance with diligence. There are, however, sundry errors and misconceptions regarding technicalities which render the work less eligible to place in the hands of the young student. For instance, the actual invention of the Van Eycks, i.e., an oleo-resinous vehicle, is clearly not understood, as may be seen by reference to Sir Charles Eastlake's "Material for a History of Oil Painting." The medium of the old tempera painters is wrongly described to have consisted of the white, instead of (usually and principally) the yolk, of egg; and much uncertainty may be caused by confounding the process of tempera with common distemper. Still more extraordinary is it to find fresco spoken of as synonymous with distemper. After mentioning Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper" as a fresco, we are informed that "it is thought" he "did not paint this wonderful composition in fresco—that is to say, in distemper, on and in a damp wall, but in oil." Here, besides the technical blunder, there is an historical mis-statement, for it is perfectly well known from internal evidence, if there were not written historical evidence to prove, that Leonardo painted his great work in oil. Some of the memoirs are curiously meagre. What (for a single example) shall we say of a notice of Giotto that contains no mention of his works in the Arena Chapel, Padua, and speaks of his "series of pictures called the 'Life and Death of San Francesco d'Assisi,'" not as existing *par excellence* at Assissi, but "dispersed over the whole of Italy?" With all our reverence for Giotto, we can but smile, also, when we are told that "he carried draperies to a perfection which remains unsurpassed." We have not been at the pains to ascertain how many of these and numerous similar errors, or if any of them, are chargeable to M. Viardot. But it was, probably, a wise discretion on the part of the French writer to omit from the enumeration of Guido's works the reputed portrait of Beatrice Cenci in the Barberini Palace, Rome. Strange to say, however, an illustration of the picture is given, though there is no reference to it in the text. We feel called upon, therefore, to remark that the picture cannot have been painted by Guido, for it has been ascertained that he was away from Rome at the time of the Cenci's execution. The story of his having caught a glimpse of the pitiful face as she turned her head on the way to the scaffold consequently falls to the ground. The reader is doubtless familiar with the portrait to which we refer—that of a young girl in white turban and scarf, with her head thrown back and aside over her shoulder. At every turn in Rome one sees reproductions in all forms of the contorted head, till one fancies one has a "crick" in the neck: at every hotel one hears the flock of English and Americans in ecstasies over its imaginary pathos and beauty. As for the Cenci herself, documentary evidence has lately been discovered and published in Italy proving that she was far from being the spotless, girlish heroine of popular tradition and Shelly's drama. Instead of sixteen, she was six-and-twenty at the time of her execution. Her will made provision for a daughter. Never perhaps in the history of art has a picture been invested with so much adventurous and supposititious interest as the portrait which forms the one great attraction of the small Barberini collection. How it came to be accepted as a work of Guido is a mystery, for it has little resemblance to any one of his three manners. Had it not been viewed through a halo of romance it would, if noticed at all, have been regarded merely as the rather common-place production of an unknown third-rate painter, just redeemed from inanity by a touch of depreciatory expression.

A translation, under Mrs. Bury Palliser's editorship, of Albert Jacquemart's standard "*Histoire du Mobilier*," which Messrs. Chapman and Hall have published under the only available but scarcely equivalent English title, *A History of Furniture*, with all the exceedingly admirable illustrations on wood of the original edition, over 160 in number by the author's son, M. Jules Jacquemart, the eminent engraver and etcher, comes at an opportune moment, now that we are beginning to apply true principles of taste to the decoration of our home interiors, and a passion for "bibelots" of all kinds is spreading so rapidly amongst almost all classes. Nor shall we appreciate this book less highly when we remember that both the learned author and the accomplished English editor are now no more. "*The History of Furniture*" fills—and very satisfactorily fills—a positive vacuum in our art-literature. The word "furniture," though it may upon occasion be made very elastic, scarcely explains the wide scope of this work. The French "mobilier" is more comprehensive, including, as it does, movables of all descriptions—"everything," in the words of our author, "that is movable, transportable, and easy to place in security." Yet even this definition will scarcely suggest the immense variety of objects described, classified, and treated of historically and critically by M. Jacquemart. Not only have we furniture in the strict sense of the word, or ornamental goods and chattels of all dates and styles, but we also have tapestries, embroidery, hangings of various tissues, stamped leather and painted papers, objects derived from sculptural art, including marbles, bronzes, ivories, wood carvings, terra-cottas, &c., and miscellaneous objects of ornamental art, such as clocks and ornamental bronzes, arms, and works in the baser metals, goldsmith's work, jewellery, snuff-boxes, gems, enamels, glass, ceramics, lacquer, wrought leather, &c. The most incomplete part of the present work is that relating to ceramics; but this deficiency is more than supplied by the author's "*Histoire de la Porcelaine*," "*Les Merveilles de la Céramique*," and, above

all, by his "*Histoire de la Céramique*." And the same field is well occupied by Marryatt and other English writers. M. Albert Jacquemart was probably the most careful annotator of sale-catalogues of our time, and the fruits of this practice will be found in the lists of artists and art-workmen in the several departments. M. Jacquemart was not, however, a mere compiler. He turned the experience of his long life to account by dealing scientifically with principles and styles; and his critical observations are always deserving of respectful consideration. We must not put down this book without expressing our warmest admiration for the illustrations by M. Jules Jacquemart—himself, like his father, a distinguished collector. It is really astonishing with what directness and certainty this artist seizes on the essential character of each object, and renders it with unhesitating vigour or the utmost delicacy, as may be required; and not only is the draughtsmanship of the forms faultless, but the very diversified textures and the effects of light thereon are caught with wonderfully suggestive fidelity.

It is pleasant to turn, if a little wearied with the mass of rather dry facts in the last-named volume, to the lively *Caucesses sur l'Art et la Curiosité*, of the well-known art-savant and collector, M. Edmond Bonnaffé, published by A. Quantin, Paris. A kind of Chauvinism characteristic of our not too modest neighbours, lends additional piquancy to these gossipping yet curiously learned strictures on art and art-industry in ancient, mediæval, and modern times; on the position, past and present, of the artist and art-workman—or of the latter simply, as M. Bonnaffé will have it, for of old the artist was merged in the artificer—and on the delights and perils, the utility and dignity, of the collector's mission. It is charming to read with what ingenious naïveté our author attempts to show how little the French Renaissance owed to the Italian; and, on the contrary, how much the Italians are indebted to the French—as in the building of Milan Cathedral! We English are a little "perfide," as usual: M. Bonnaffé is too polite to say so much, but that is the inference. For the French have "le génie inventif;" they start an invention, but leave it for a caprice, a new fashion, a revolution; when straightway the English hasten to gather and appropriate it; they leave nothing to chance; they adopt it, they raise it, they cause it to grow tranquilly, silently, and when the work is achieved to the applause of the world, the French are all astonished at not having known how to do as much. "On l'a dit depuis longtemps, le Français invente, l'Anglais perfectionne. Du Sommerard invente le Musée des Arts Décoratifs, et l'Angleterre fondé Kensington." Several of the chapters, particularly that on "*Le Commerce de la Curiosité*," contain a large number of interesting facts relating to collectors, from classic and mediæval writers.

A pleasing novelty and originality of subject and style will probably recommend, to many of this season's book-buyers, the attractive volume called *Child-Life in Japan*. It is a collection of Japanese child-stories, by Mrs. M. Chaplin-Ayrton (publishers, Messrs. Griffith and Farran). Its external covering, black with scarlet and gold symbolic ornamentation, promises something quaintly characteristic, of which its diverting pages yield us plenty, the queerest drawings and the most fanciful humorous or pathetic tales. There are seven full-page engravings by Japanese artists, and some thirty smaller pictures, which are often very droll. The book is dedicated to a little English girl, born in Japan, who is called "Ojosama" by her affectionate nurse, and who was lately sent from that country to a grandmother in England. It is a good idea that these Japanese nursery stories should serve to keep alive in the child's heart the tender memories of her earliest infancy. Mrs. Chaplin-Ayrton has a loving sympathy with children all over the world, and a lively sense of whatever is most likely to please them. She has, moreover, a genuine talent for narrative, and for the accompanying graphic delineation. The graceful-grotesque, which is a delightful combination of qualities in literature and in art, seems to be her peculiar domain. We do not know where to find more charming samples of this piquant mixture, than in the pleasant new book she has put before us. Looking at any one of the pictures it contains, we see no ugliness, but a wild and wayward oddity, in the figures, attitudes, and grouping. There is a general defiance of perspective, and everything is off its balance, as in the pictures that sometimes arise to the mind while dreaming. But such is the proper elementary condition, as we take it, of true burlesque art. Nowhere is a hideous or repulsive form presented to view; the lines are those of grace, but they make a whimsical caricature of the subjects represented. We might refer to certain artistic packs of playing-cards for an instance of what is here meant to be recommended, where the funny King and Queen and Knave of each suit are really pretty figures, but preposterous as human portraits. The Japanese stories, which Mrs. Chaplin-Ayrton has partly invented and partly collected, with some assistance from Mr. Basil Chamberlain as translator, are decidedly interesting. They are preceded by an engaging account of the favourite sports and pastimes of Japanese juvenility, illustrated by the seven page engravings. These represent the "Kangura," in which we see two children, one with a terrific boar's head mask trying to frighten the other; a brisk snow-ball combat; a couple of young musicians, with drum and fife; others spinning their tops, playing with puppy-dogs, walking on stilts, and fondling the least sensitive of pets, a tortoise, like that English child to whom Sydney Smith once said, "You might as well pat the dome of St. Paul's, to please the Dean and Chapter." These examples are followed by a description of the print-shop where pictures are to be bought for a scrap-book; a dialogue between little Yoshisan and his sister Kika (which name signifies a chrysanthemum) upon the festive enjoyments of O'Shogvat, or New-Year's Day; the same little boy's happy visit to the Chrysanthemum Show, under the care of a kind grandmamma; and the series of native Japanese legends. We like that of the two babes who were left by their parents in a junk at the river's bank, and how they fared when the vessel drifted out to sea; and the more wonderful story of Fish-save, a child so named because he was safely carried by a fish from the shore of China, where his deserted mother had cast him on the waves, to the abode of his father in Japan. The virtues of filial piety and family duty are specially commended by the patient heroism of a boy, who thawed the winter ice with the heat of his prostrate naked body, that he might catch fish for the dinner of his unkind stepmother; by the exemplary conduct of the girls of Echigo, and the "Parley Queen," and the two daughters of Okada, who exposed themselves to be shot for storks by an infatuated sire, in order to cure him of his sinful practice of killing harmless creatures. The story of Uranai is a convincing proof of the marvellous gift of "second sight," which has been an article of popular traditional belief in many other countries. An essay, by Professor Griffis, on the various kinds of games played by the Japanese, completes this interesting book, which is a most acceptable contribution to our better acquaintance with that clever and amiable nation of the Far East. We may be permitted to add one word concerning Mrs. Chaplin-Ayrton personally, as her diplomas and degrees of professional

education appear on the titlepage. She is a lady whose husband some years ago was appointed by the Japanese Government to superintend the scientific studies of electricity and the construction and working of telegraphs at the Mikado's capital, where she has been residing with him. But she has also pursued, both at Edinburgh and in Paris, the most complete course of instruction in surgery and medicine that is open to female students in Europe; and we believe that her practice among both Japanese and European ladies has been attended with good success. Her lectures, in the Japanese language, to a class of native young women, were very well attended; and she gained much influence amongst them.

THE TRAINING-SHIP SHAFTESBURY.

The School Board for London has added to the other training-ships on the Thames, of which there are now seven, this one stationed at Grays, on the Essex shore, near the Exmouth, the training-ship of the Metropolitan Asylum Board. The Shaftesbury was the steam-ship Nubia, purchased by the School Board from the Peninsular and Oriental Company for £7500. Having been fitted up, she began to receive boys, under the Industrial Schools Act, on Sept. 8 last, since which date seventy-five boys have been entered. Her decks and cabins have an air of roominess and a height not to be found in any other training-ship. She is about 3000 tons burden, length over all 330 ft., beam 39 ft., and a march of eight times round her upper deck is about a mile. On this deck a large quantity of water is kept, which is pumped up every day from the larger quantity kept in tanks in the hold. Fifty tons are thus raised to a level, from which supplies are drawn all over the ship for cooking, cleansing, or extinguishing fire in case of need. On this deck, also, inclosed in an iron house, are the "Alpha" gas machines. The ship is beautifully and economically lighted by gas made from gasoline. Gas pipes are laid all over the ship; the keys of the main are kept under lock, and everything is so well under control that in less than a minute every drop of oil is started overboard. The captain's quarters are on the school or main deck; adjoining these are the board-room, rooms and lavatories for the committee, office, and library. The schoolroom, 80 ft. long and 8½ ft. high, is well lighted by twenty-two fine windows of a single pane each. It is airy and well ventilated. In the centre of the deck, upon a platform slightly raised, stand a piano and harmonium, so that music and singing are not forgotten. Next to the schoolroom are two class rooms, 30 ft. by 15 ft., which can be thrown into one by tricing up the partitions on bulkheads. Then comes the tailor's shop, where the boys are clothed, and taught to mend their own clothes. The lavatory is a large room, well lighted, warmed, and ventilated. The boys have a bath every morning in a small galvanised iron bath, and then a plunge into a large one, 16 ft. by 12 ft., and 5 ft. deep. This can be warmed in winter by hot water. The mess- or lower deck comprises, aft, the officers' mess-room and cabins, and the mess-deck for boys, 110 ft. long, fitted up with tables and stools, mess kettles, and other utensils. There are fourteen boys in each mess, and when the ship is full, as many as four hundred boys can sit down to meals at once. On the fore part of this deck are more officers' cabins, carpenter's shop, band instrument room, and the cooking galley or ship's kitchen. Here the arrangements are very complete, with a cool larder and store-room for bread. The sleeping or orlop deck is 200 ft. long, with officers' cabins at each end. Here three hundred boys can sleep; but iron bedsteads, not hammocks, are used; these are constructed of galvanised gas piping, and are very cheap. It is intended that fifty of the elder boys shall sleep in hammocks on another deck. The supervision of the boys is excellent, three officers keep watch in turn every night, and lights are burning all night under lock and key, so that they cannot be tampered with. The ventilation is ample. The capacious hold of the ship is divided by four watertight bulkheads. In the after compartment are the stern moorings, three store-rooms, water-tanks, store and provision rooms again. In the next compartment are the band-room, drying-rooms, boiler-room, in which the boiler heats the water for warming the ship by a series of three-inch pipes fixed round each deck; and coal-hold, in which are stowed eighty tons of coal and coke—a year's supply. In the third compartment is another series of water-tanks; and in the foremost compartment are the bow moorings. For stability, the hold is covered with about 700 tons of concrete, which gives it a clean and wholesome appearance. For extinguishing fire, besides the taps all over the ship and fire extinguishers, there are three powerful Downton pumps. The Shaftesbury carries twelve boats, and there is a tender attached to her in the shape of the barque Swift, a useful little vessel of 150 tons, in which during the summer months the boys take a weekly sail to the Nore and back, and thus learn in a practical way the art of navigation. The Board have secured a field of six acres close by, so that an infirmary can be erected and a swimming-bath constructed. In this field the boys are also drilled, and it is used as a playground. The Shaftesbury, with her tender, has been fitted up in a most efficient and economical manner, and much is due to the experience and practical knowledge of Mr. Thomas Scrutton, the chairman of the Industrial Schools Committee. The superintendent of this training-ship is Captain William Scriven, late R.N., who was selected by the committee out of fifty candidates for this important position. He has a liberal staff of twenty-four officers, including schoolmasters and seamen-instructors.

A meeting of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday evening, at which the president, Lord Dufferin, took the chair for the first time since his return from Canada. Papers on the Swedish and Dutch Arctic Expeditions were read by Mr. Clements Markham; and Sir Leopold McClintock, Captain Feilden, Admiral Hammond, and Sir Allen Young took part in the discussion which ensued.

The Bishop of Rochester presided on the 16th inst. at the distribution of prizes at St. Saviour's Grammar School, Southwark. The report of the examiners was satisfactory. The proceedings were varied by the presentation of a testimonial to the second master, Mr. W. H. Ruston, and by the announcement that the Bishop had conferred an honorary canonry in Rochester Cathedral on the Head Master, the Rev. E. Boger.

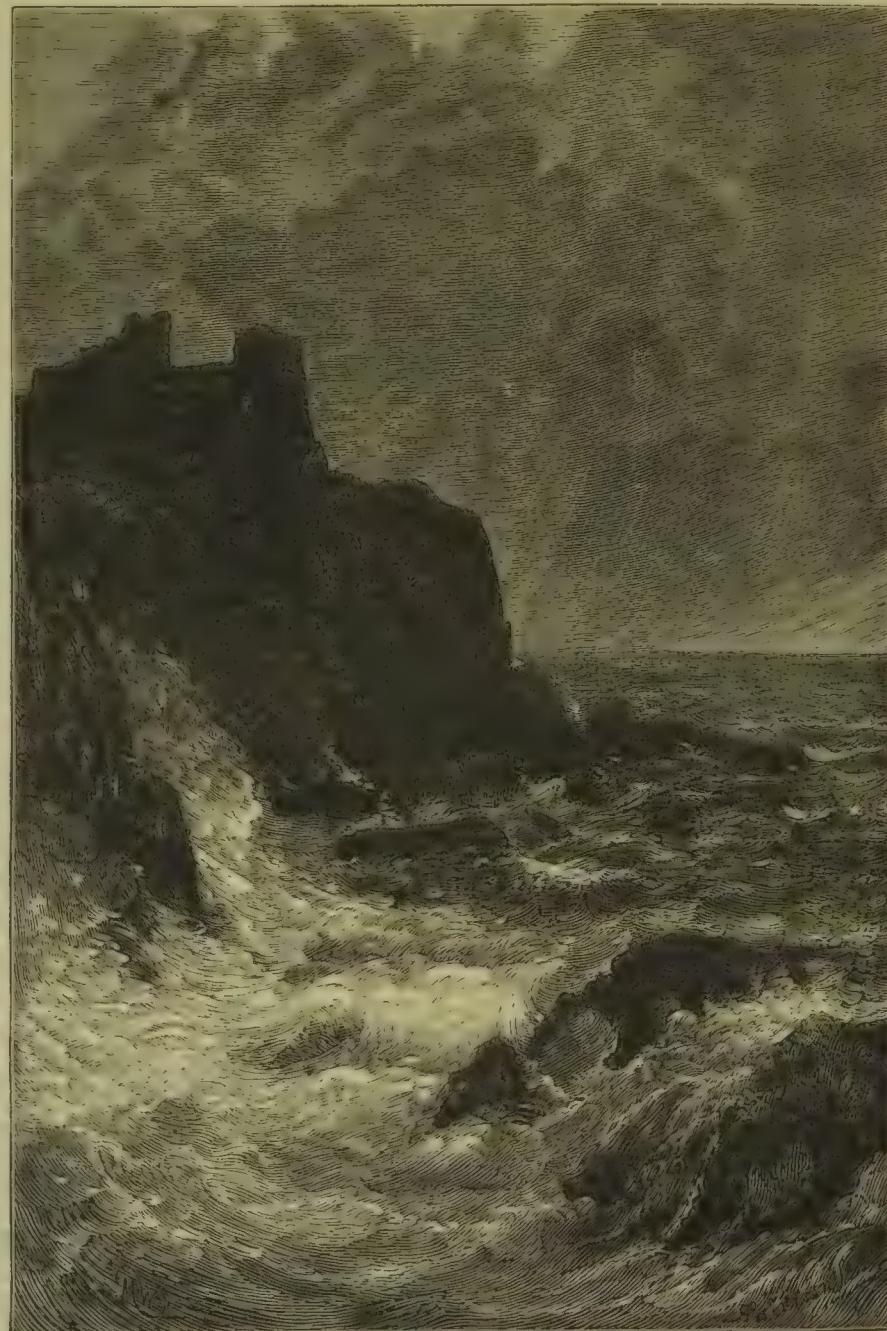
The Duke of Northumberland, president of the institution, took the chair at a meeting of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution at its house, John-street, Adelphi, on the 5th inst., when the services performed by the life-boats of the institution during the month of November were reported, and rewards amounting to £550 were ordered to be paid to life-boat crews. Various sums were also granted to the crews of shore-boats for saving life from wrecks on our coasts. Payments to the amount of £2400 were made on life-boat establishments. The receipt of various contributions and legacies was announced. New life-boats were ordered to be placed at four different stations. Reports were read from the four inspectors of life-boats of the institution on recent visits to the coasts.

"CALEDONIA," AND "OUR VILLAGE."

Among the new books of mingled artistic and literary attractiveness, proffered to this year's Christmas purchaser, Mr. Nimmo of Edinburgh has published a volume entitled "Caledonia," which contains selections from the descriptive poetry of Sir Walter Scott, Robert Burns, and Allan Ramsay, with illustrations drawn by Mr. John MacWhirter, and engraved on wood by Mr. R. Paterson. They present thirty-five notable scenes of landscape sublimity and beauty, including several views of nobly-seated towns, castles, and sacred edifices, in that glorious North British "land of brown heath and shaggy wood, land of the mountain and the flood," which is the pride and delight of this United Kingdom, and of our common British nationality. For we have no idea, here as Englishmen, of allowing the Scotchmen to have Scotland all to themselves, since the fond and enthusiastic admiration of true lovers of Nature, in her most romantic aspects, has claimed and won for us an equal inheritance of patriotic attachment to the wildly varied scenery and heart-stirring associations of local history or legendary adventure, which greet the tourist at every day's journey from Tweedside to the Pentland Firth. In the present time, less than in the past, could we afford to spare this portion of our national patrimony of cherished interest in places inalienably rendered our own by the earliest studies and entertainments of youthful imagination, and probably visited in after years with the familiarity of home rambles, not as the intrusive traveller in foreign lands. As Mr. Goldwin Smith truly remarks, in his recent essay on "The Greatness of England," we feel that in this age, more than ever, "the Scottish Highlands, the mountains of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and of Wales, Devonshire, and Cornwall, are the asylum of natural beauty, of poetry, and of hearts that seek repose from the din and turmoil of commercial life." Enough has been said to justify our ready appreciation of the subjects presented in "Caledonia;" and the extracts from Burns and Scott, if not those from Ramsay, will have been often perused before, with a still renewed and strengthened perception of their vivid truthfulness, by the majority of cultivated readers. The engravings, one of which is borrowed by permission for the adornment of our own page, are finely designed and executed; but this is sufficiently attested by the example here produced, with no other commentary needful than what the poet has supplied:—

I said, Tantallon's dizzy steep
Hung o'er the margin of the deep.
Many a rude tower and rampart there
Repelled the insult of the air,
Which, when the tempest vexed the sky,
Half breeze, half spray, came whistling by.
Above the booming ocean lent
The far-projecting battlement;
The billows burst, in ceaseless flow,
Upon the precipice below.
The steepy rock, and frantic tide
Approach of human step denied;
And thus these lines, and ramparts rude,
Were left in deepest solitude.

It was above half a century ago that Mary Russell Mitford, from her pleasant rural cottage near Reading, charmed a great many readers with the engaging sketches of English country life, collectively known as "Our Village." The charm has not yet lost any of its potency, nor is it likely to abate "while yet a nook remains, where English mind and manners can be found;" while the grass is green in our meadows, the spring flowers appear in yearly blossom, on the hedge-rows in every sequestered lane, and the merry song of thrush or blackbird is loud in every copse or cluster of leafy elms. These sights and sounds of rural England, with the familiar habits and ordinary manner of life among the common folk of agricultural districts—their ways of thinking and speaking, their fixed social degrees and kindly mutual relations, with the old-fashioned proverbial fidelity of their attachments to place and persons—were formerly considered an abiding pledge of modest happiness, to be enjoyed in peaceful retirement from the bustle of towns. One used to look forward then to the opportunity of making for oneself, possibly, a home in the country, after some thirty or forty years of competitive jangling and huckstering in mercantile or professional business, or of servitude in a public or private office. Everybody has grown wiser now, it is to be supposed; and few or none can be any longer deluded with the imaginary contents of unpretending rusticity in this age of universal Mammon-worship; yet we may still return, with a sigh of gentle regret, to the contemplation of tranquil and simple ways of living, and to the scenes and characters of "Our Village," which delighted us in early youth, before we had seen the world. A beautiful volume, just published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington, among the illustrated books of this season, is filled with select descriptive passages from Miss Mitford's ever bright and acceptable series of mixed writings upon this congenial theme. They are accompanied by a great number and variety of fine wood engravings, some of full-page size, but the majority of them vignettes inserted



TANTALLON CASTLE, FROM "CALEDONIA," ILLUSTRATED.

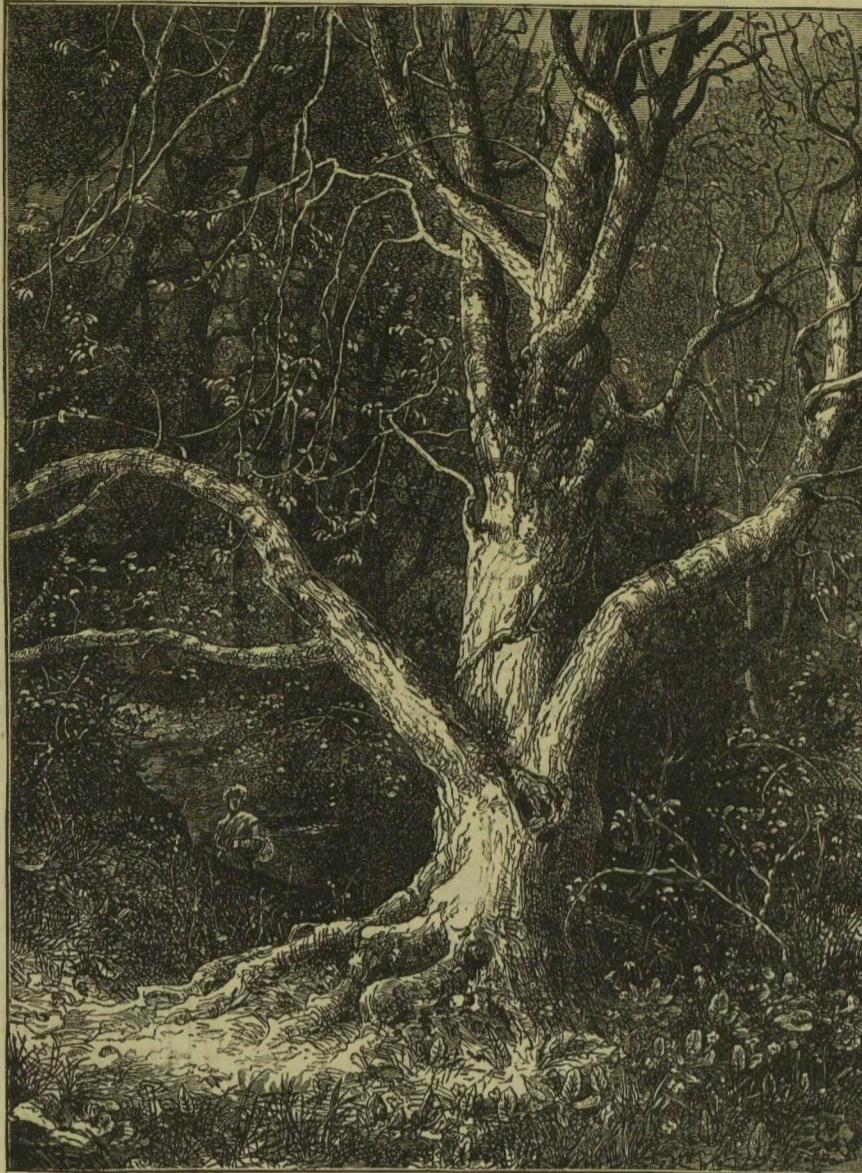


THE NEW TRAINING-SHIP SHAFTESBURY, STATIONED AT GRAYS, ESSEX

in the text, or head-pieces or tail-pieces of the chapters, which have been drawn mostly by two artists, Mr. C. O. Murray and Mr. W. H. J. Boot, the former generally taking the figure-subjects, the latter doing the bits of landscapes or trees and flowers. The engraver is Mr. James D. Cooper; and the quality of this work may be seen in a good example which we are permitted to set before our own readers, being an Illustration of the admiring remark, "How boldly that superb ash-tree, with its fine silver bark, rises from the bank!" The season, we are told, is that of the latter part of April, but "sad wintry weather, with a north-east wind, and a sun that puts out one's eyes without affording the slightest warmth." Notwithstanding this austerity of the backward spring-time, Miss Mitford, like a cheerful, healthy-minded, sensible woman as she was, set out that morning, with her favourite Italian greyhound, Mayflower, for a walk to the neighbouring coppice, where she noticed the beauty of this noble ash; and here comes Mr. Boot, the artist of the present Illustration, who follows in her steps, a long while afterwards, to the same identical woodland corner; and his pencil, as we see, has been very skilfully employed to finish the picture that was traced by a line from her pen, at least fifty-five years ago. The original edition of "Our Village" bears the date of 1824. We are glad to have this one, enriched and adorned with such an abundance of beautiful engravings.

THE TAPESTRY EXHIBITION AT WINDSOR.

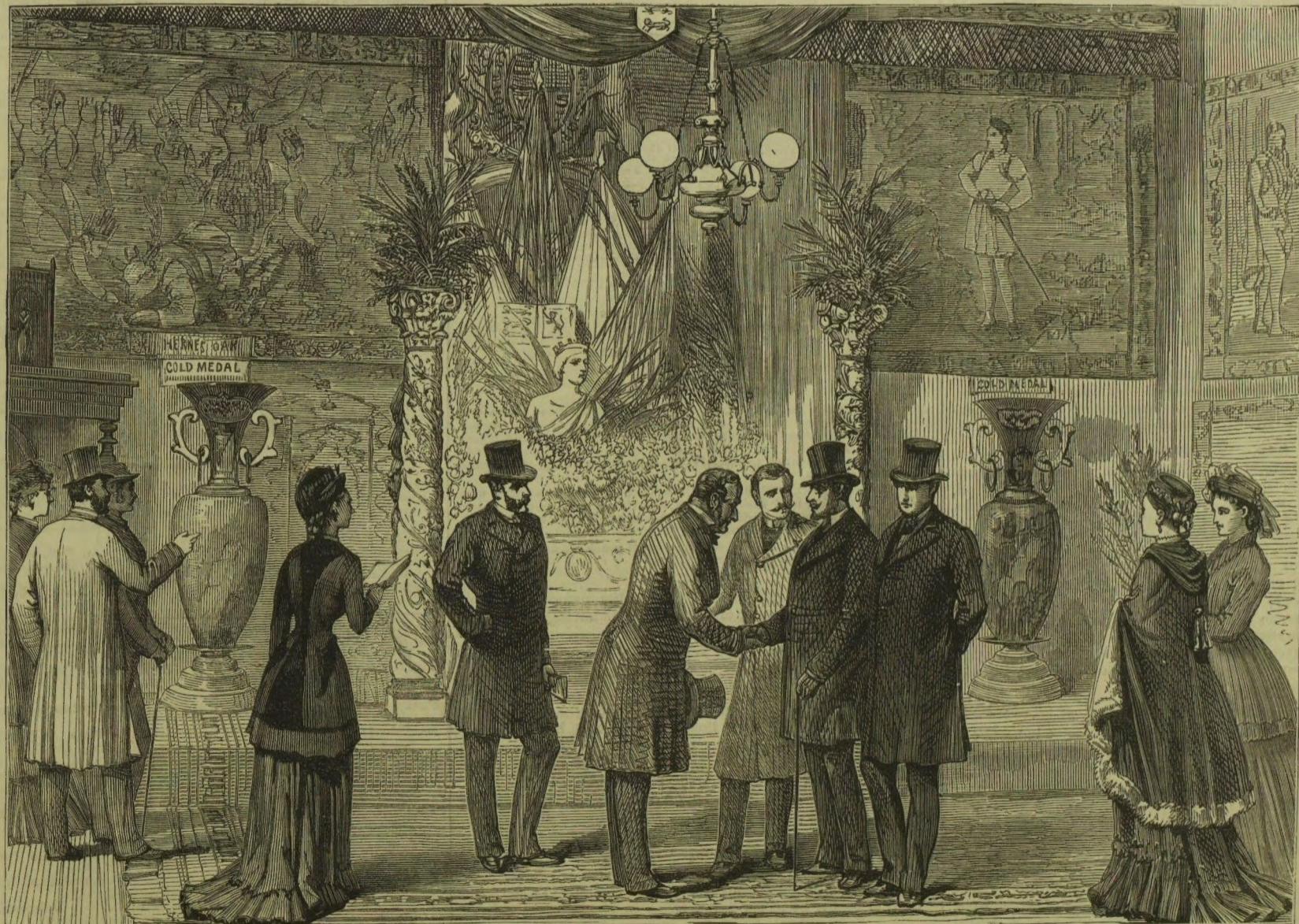
The art of weaving tapestry, which in mediæval times was more important than painting itself, and which, since the Renaissance, has been among all the arts only second to painting through the productions of Arras (whence the name long given to tapestry) and Brussels, Gobelins, and Beauvais, and several Italian towns, has for a long time past not thriven in England. It took root for a while in Warwickshire in the days of Cardinal Wolsey; at Mortlake under the Stuarts, and subsequently in Ireland, and at Soho; but it never continued to flourish; and in the recent great revival of all the arts



SILVER-BARK ASH, FROM "OUR VILLAGE," ILLUSTRATED.

of interior and household embellishment in this country it has been the last to receive attention. The Tapestry Manufactory which was founded at Windsor about two years back, under Royal patronage, and which has been ably directed by Mr. H. Henry, bids fair, however, to remove this reproach, judging from the excellence of its products now forming the principal attraction of an exhibition in the Town-hall of the Royal borough. The chief specimens here displayed are those which were recently on view at the Paris Exhibition. The collection includes eight large panels representing scenes from the "Merry Wives of Windsor," the designs being by Mr. T. W. Hay. They formed the dining-room decoration in the Prince of Wales's pavilion at Paris, and received a gold medal. They are the property of Sir A. Sassoon, K.C.S.I., by whom they have been lent for the present exhibition. There is also a series of panels of tapestry representing hunting scenes, designed by Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., for Mr. Christopher Sykes, M.P., and a number of smaller productions. Among the other specimens is a large panel representing the Siege of Londonderry. It was formerly a panel in the old Irish House of Lords, afterwards the Bank of Ireland, at Dublin. It has just been restored at Old Windsor. It is said to have been the work originally of Huguenot refugees. The exhibition includes a series of eight panels in appliquéd work on gold ground, part of the decoration of the morning-room in the Prince of Wales's pavilion. This was executed by the Ladies' Work Society, of which Princess Louise is the president. There are also a number of valuable pictures.

Dr. Schliemann has resumed his excavations at Mount Hissarlik, in search for the buried Troy, with characteristic energy; but his labours are now suspended till spring, on account of the severity of the winters in the district. The fresh excavations are made on the site of the King's house, as the learned doctor calls the large mansion to the north-west and west of the great gate, and principally among the wood ashes, ten feet deep, the remains, as he believes, of the burnt Troy—the third downwards of the four prehistoric cities which he also concludes have occupied the site. On



EXHIBITION OF TAPESTRY AT WINDSOR.

clearing the débris from the great gate it was found that there had been three gates; and east of these a number of house walls have been brought to light. As usual, these seldom exceed six feet in height, and must, as the doctor thinks, have formed substructures to lofty wooden buildings, which would account for the mass of wood ashes. The walls of the King's house, which are at a depth of 26 or 28 feet below the surface of the hill, are "precisely like the cyclopean walls of the Royal Palace at Mycenæ and the cyclopean house at Tyrins. The objects last discovered are generally similar to those lent to the South Kensington Museum, including splendid ladies' hairpins, a bracelet, beads, silver rings, and other ornaments, a distaff of wood, and a piece of lustrous green Egyptian porcelain. Dr. Schliemann considers, however, that by far the most interesting object he has ever found at Troy is a dagger of steel four inches long. Homer speaks of iron as rare and valuable; how much more so must it not have been, asks the doctor, centuries before the poet's time? The first iron used was probably meteoric, and Dr. Birch, of the British Museum, says this is confirmed by the ancient Egyptian name for that metal. Dr. Schliemann is astonished at, and cannot account for, the "billions" of shells of cockles and mussels found in all the strata of the prehistoric débris. The fish are found no more on the shores of the Hellespont or Aegean, though, doubtless, they were once plentiful. But it has been suggested that the shell-fish were of the kinds which yield dyes, such as the dye which rendered Tyre so famous. Another suggestion is that the shells may have been collected for the purpose of being burnt to make lime. Our Number for Nov. 30 contained an Engraving of Africans burning shells for lime.

OBITUARY.

THE EARL OF NORTHESK.

The Right Hon. William Hopetown Carnegie, eighth Earl of Northesk, and Baron Rosehill and Ingismaldie, in the Peerage of Scotland, died on the 5th inst., at his seat, Longwood, Winchester. His Lordship was born Oct. 16, 1794, the eldest son to survive of the distinguished Admiral, third in command at Trafalgar, William, seventh Earl of Northesk, G.C.B., at whose decease, May 28, 1831, he succeeded to the peerage. His mother was Mary, only daughter of William Henry Ricketts, Esq., of Longwood, Hants, and niece of Earl St. Vincent, the great naval commander. Lord Northesk, whose decease we record, married, Feb. 14, 1843, Georgiana Maria, eldest daughter of the late Admiral the Hon. Sir George Eliot, K.C.B., which lady died in 1874, and leaves an only son, George John, Lord Rosehill, now Earl of Northesk.

CHIEF JUSTICE MONAHAN.

The Right Hon. James Henry Monahan, P.C., LL.D. ex-Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, Ireland, and one of the Commissioners of National Education, died on the 8th inst. at 5, Fitzwilliam-square, Dublin. This distinguished lawyer, born at Portumna, in the county of Galway, 1805, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where, after a brilliant collegiate course, he became gold medallist. In 1828 he was called to the Irish Bar, in 1840 obtained a silk gown, in 1846 was appointed Solicitor-General for Ireland, in 1847 Attorney-General, and in 1850 succeeded Doherty as Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. In that high judicial office, which he held until 1876, he displayed the greatest legal knowledge and ability, as well as indomitable firmness and unswerving honesty. In social life he was universally beloved. For a short period in 1847 he sat in Parliament for the town of Galway. Chief Justice Monahan leaves two sons, James, Q.C., and Henry, and four daughters.

MR. DUNBAR, M.P.

John Dunbar, Esq., M.P. for New Ross, died on the 4th inst., at 19, Russell-road, Kensington, aged fifty-two. He was the son of the late Joseph Dunbar, Esq., of Cork; received his early education at Clongowes-wood College, and afterwards graduated M.A. at Trinity College, Dublin. For some time he was on the Parliamentary staff of the *Daily News*. In 1849 he was called to the Irish and in 1854 to the English Bar, joined the Home Circuit, and afterwards practised most successfully in Bombay, where he acquired a considerable fortune. He was elected M.P. for New Ross in 1874.

PROFESSOR SMYTH, M.P.

Professor Richard Smyth, D.D., M.P. for the county of Londonderry, died at Belfast on the 4th inst., aged fifty. He was second son of Hugh Smyth, Esq., of Bushmills; was formerly a minister in the Irish Presbyterian Church; was Moderator of the General Assembly, 1869 and 1870; and at the time of his demise was Professor of Theology in Magee College, Londonderry. He sat in Parliament for the county of Londonderry; and recently, in the House of Commons and elsewhere, was a most zealous advocate of temperance measures, particularly the Sunday-closing movement for Ireland.

MAJOR WHYTE-MELVILLE.

George John Whyte-Melville, Esq., the distinguished writer whose death from an accident in the hunting-field occurred, on the 5th inst., was the only son of John Whyte-Melville, Esq., of Bennochy and Strathkinness, in the county of Fife, by the Lady Catherine Anne Sarah Osborne, his wife, youngest daughter of Francis Godolphin, fifth Duke of Leeds. He was born July 19, 1821; married, Aug. 7, 1847, the Hon. Charlotte Hanbury, second daughter of William, first Lord Bateman, and leaves an only daughter, Florence Charlotte, wife of Viscount Massereene and Ferrard. Major Whyte-Melville's numerous novels have attained great popularity and are remarkable for great versatility of style. Major Whyte-Melville was also a ripe classical scholar, and published a translation of the Odes of Horace.

MR. GYE.

Mr. Frederick Gye (whose death, from a gun accident, was recorded last week) was in his sixty-ninth year, and had been nearly thirty years director of the Royal Italian Opera, the performances at which, under his able and liberal administration, had assumed an importance, and a scenic and stage splendour, hitherto unapproached. Under his management many of the greatest operatic works were produced, and many of the most eminent singers brought forward, among these having been Mesdames Bosio, Adelina Patti, Lucca, and Albani. It was also at the Royal Italian Opera-House (Covent Garden Theatre) that Griez and Mario obtained some of their greatest triumphs. The late Mr. Gye was not only a skilful operatic administrator, but was also an intelligent and amiable gentleman, and was respected and esteemed alike in his business transactions and social relations. The

management of the Royal Italian Opera will be carried on by his sons.

The deaths have also been announced of—

Charlotte Maria, Lady Elliott, wife of Sir William F. A. Elliott, Bart., of Stobs, Roxburghshire, F.R.S.

Captain John Elliot Bingham, R.N., at Hurst Wood Lodge, Tunbridge Wells, in his seventy-fourth year.

Edward Robert Coles, Esq., J.P., on the 30th ult., at Eastgate, Rochester, aged seventy-five.

Craufurd Tait Ramage, LL.D., on the 29th ult., at Wallace Hall, in the county of Dumfries, aged seventy-five.

Dr. William M'Kenzie Saunders, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, on the retired list, aged sixty.

Claude Hunter, R.N., eldest son of Sir C. S. Paul Hunter, Bart., of Mortimer Hill, Reading, on the 3rd inst., at the Naval Hospital, Malta, aged twenty-four.

Edward Royd Rice, Esq., on the 27th ult., at his seat, Dane Court, Kent, in his eighty-ninth year. This gentleman, a J.P. and D.L. for Kent, and its High Sheriff in 1830, was formerly Captain East Kent Yeomanry Cavalry, and sat in Parliament for Dover from 1837 to 1857.

Mr. John Done Harris, of Ratcliffe Hall, Leicestershire, a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for that county, and late M.P. for Leicester. Mr. Harris was born in 1809; and in 1831 married the eldest daughter of G. Shirley, Esq., of Tamworth, by whom he had an only daughter, now Lady Salt, the wife of Sir W. H. Salt, Bart., of Maplewell, Loughborough, eldest son of the late Sir Titus Salt, of Saltaire.

CHESS.

(The unusual demand upon our space in this issue compels us to defer the Answers to Correspondents for a week.)

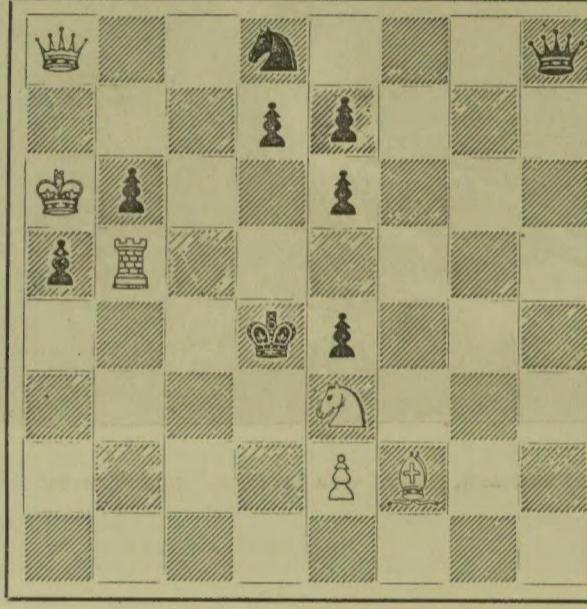
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1814.

WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to K Kt 7th Any move
2. Q, Kt, or R mates accordingly.

PROBLEM NO. 1817.

By J. PIERCE, M.A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN LONDON.

Played at the Royal Aquarium between the Rev. Mr. PEARSON and the so-called Automaton Chessplayer, "MEPHISTO."

(King's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (Mephisto.) BLACK (Mr. P.) WHITE (Mephisto.) BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th 16. K to K sq Q to K B 4th
2. P to K B 4th P to Q 4th 17. P to K R 3rd Kt to R 4th
3. P takes Q P Q takes P
4. Kt to Q B 3rd Q to Q sq
Black's opening is not very promising. His third move is inferior to P to K 5th, which leads to at least an even game; and here he should have played the Q to K 3rd.
5. Kt to B 3rd B to Q Kt 5th
6. Kt takes P Kt to B 3rd Castles
7. B to B 4th Kt to B 3rd
8. P to Q 3rd Q to Q 5th
9. B to Q 2nd B to B 3rd
10. Kt takes Kt P takes Kt
11. Q to B 3rd B to K 5th
12. Q to B 2nd K R to K sq (ch)
13. K to B sq B takes Kt
14. B takes B Q to Q 2nd
15. Q to R 4th B to K 7th (ch)

It would have been wiser to have re-treated the B to Kt 3rd.

18. B to K 5th P to Kt 4th
19. P to K Kt 4th Q takes B
20. B takes P (ch)

This capital stroke was evidently overlooked by Black when he captured the Bishop with the Queen.

21. P takes Q P takes Q
22. B takes R R takes B
23. P takes Kt R takes P
24. R to K sq R to Kt 4th (ch)
25. K to R 2nd B to B 6th
26. K R to Kt sq Resigns.

If 17. Kt to K 5th, White can take it with the Pawn; and if 17. Kt to Q 4th, then 18. B to K 5th is a good reply.

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